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FINLAND GIVES GROUND BEFORE MASS ATTACKS

Helsinki, To-day.

AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE issued at midnight admits that the Red Army has made further advances after severe fighting in the Lake Ladoga and Isthmus sector.

Ground was given at several points, says the communique, though most of the Russian attacks were repulsed.

Disastrous losses were inflicted on the Russians by the Finnish Air Force, rejuvenated by the arrival of Italian planes (and, it is believed, Italian pilots), when a column of tanks and armoured cars was practically destroyed, forestalling an attack on another part of the Mannerheim Line.

Moscow's continued claims to have smashed through the Mannerheim Line are again contradicted in Helsinki.

The Soviet Air Force has been active with improving weather and the important Finnish fort of Hangoe was heavily bombed on two occasions yesterday.

Nearly 250,000 men are now massed for the renewed offensive in the Karelian Isthmus, with Viborg as its principal objective.

DETERMINED ATTACKS

Determined attacks are also taking place along the front north of Lake Ladoga, the aim being to outflank the Finnish defences in the Karelian Isthmus and to link up with the Red contingents in the Isthmus.

The Finns estimate that the total Russian casualties in the Petsamo region exceed 25,000. Violent attacks by land, sea and air have been resumed on the Arctic battlefield. — Reuter.

HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

HELSINKI, TO-DAY. DESPITE THE FINNS' MAGNIFICENT RESISTANCE AND HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING, DURING WHICH AT ONE STAGE THEY THREW THE RED ARMY BACK FROM 6 TO 8 MILES, FINNISH TROOPS WERE FINALLY COMPELLED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE VILLAGE OF SUOBALMI, IN THE VICINITY OF KAIKARI-JOKI. AFTER THE SOVIETS HAD RUSHED IMPORTANT REINFORCEMENTS, AIDED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF AEROPLANES, THE FINNISH HIGH COMMAND ANNOUNCES:

In the Petsamo region, the Finns continue to put up an heroic resistance, although greatly outnumbered by the Russians, who have now landed special equipment designed for Polar fighting.

In the meantime, it is reported that Soviet Russia has decided not to accept any offers whatever for mediation — even if Adolf Hitler himself should tender his "good offices." — Havas.

SHARP FIGHT FOR SMALL OUTPOST

Paris, To-day.

The French claim the victory in an intensive miniature battle which raged throughout 24 hours for possession of a small but highly important French outpost in the wooded Saarguemines area.

The Germans opened with a terrific artillery barrage, shelling the post with heavy stuff, and the French troops gave way slowly to the German forces following up the barrage.

German occupation of the post lasted roughly four hours. The French artillery for miles round concentrated on the post, compelling the Germans to abandon the position, which French infantry later re-occupied.

Increased patrol activity is noted in the Moselle, Saar River and Vosges sectors, and there have been sharp skirmishes in No-man's-Land. — Reuter.

SWEDISH STEAMER SUNK BY MINE

Stockholm, To-day.

The Swedish steamer Vindar has sunk after an explosion caused, presumably, by a mine. Her crew of 21 was rescued by a Norwegian vessel. — Reuter.

WEATHER FORECAST:—North-East winds, fresh; fine, cold.

IL DUCE TO JOIN PEACE OFFENSIVE?

Rome, To-day.

Rumour is circulating in Rome that Il Duce may support the German peace offensive at Geneva.

The rumours suggest that Berlin is now ready to conclude peace on terms close to the Allied minimum demands, except that requirement which calls for the establishment of a German Government whose word can be trusted.

No official confirmation is forthcoming. — Reuter.

HUNGARIAN MISSION IN ITALY

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Rome, To-day.

The Italian press announces the arrival of an Hungarian military mission.

According to "Popolo d'Italia," the

GERMANY CANNOT LAST MORE THAN YEAR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Berne, To-day.

Reliable reports from Germany state that at a conference of prominent leaders of the Reich's heavy industry in November, it was admitted that the winter campaign 1940-41 would be fatal for Germany, since either a military defeat or a Bolshevik revolution was bound to occur.

Other delegates are reported to have asserted that only a rapid peace can save Germany from Bolshevism, while still others declared that it was preferable to wait until next Summer in order to enable to score military successes which would permit the concluding of peace under favourable conditions.

It is understood that the majority finally rallied to the latter view. — Havas.

NAZI PLANES NEAR BRITISH COAST

London, To-day.

Machine-gun fire was heard in the air off the North-East coast yesterday afternoon. Some time earlier, two planes, believed to be German, were seen flying high in the vicinity.

A challenge of these machines by R.A.F. fighters apparently explains the firing. — Reuter.

mission consists of aviation experts only. — Havas.

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TO-MORROW
"THE RETURN OF SCARLET PIMPERNEL"
with Barry K. Barnes — A United Artists Release

NAVY'S HUNT FOR THE POCKET BATTLESHIPS

London, To-day.

IN A REVIEW OF THE WAR at sea, the BBC Naval Observer said yesterday that when Germany built her three pocket battleships, she designed them as commerce raiders which could beat off a cruiser and run away from a battleship. They can steam 20,000 miles without refueling — almost right around the world. Discussing the difficulties of finding these ships, he asked how many ships were actually seen on, say, a trip from Britain to New Zealand?

A ship at sea was almost blind, he said. On a clear day, the horizon was only 10 miles away, so that a ship could see for little more than 200 miles around. At night, visibility was only a couple of miles—for raiders travel without lights.

A ship in those circumstances was rather like a man wandering in a thick mist on the Yorkshire Moors. A ship had only to be on the other side of the horizon to be invisible.

In the North Atlantic, where the Rivalpindi met her doom, the position was even worse. Gales were almost a daily occurrence, there was only about 3½ hours of daylight, and for good measure there were fogs, mists, rain-storms and snow-storms. In such weather, one's quarry could be invisible although she was only a mile or so away.

RAIDER'S PROBLEM

Nevertheless, the raider did not have it all its own way. It must eventually feed its crew and refuel. It must get supplies. As soon as it captured a ship, it ran the risk of giving away its position.

Recently, several German ships had left neutral ports, probably intending to supply the raiders. That did not matter now—they had been either captured or scuttled.

Sooner or later, too, the raider's speed and steaming performance suffer, particularly in tropical waters, where marine growths are prolific. Machinery, too, develops defects in time which eventually need handling in a dockyard.

Hunting the raiders may take time, but sooner or later, they get

caught. The ships of the British and French navies are after them night and day.

MAGNETIC MINES

Turning to mines, the Naval Observer said that at first the Nazis had a certain amount of success with their magnetic mines. Yet the blockade is more frightful than effective. British ports are still open and the mine-sweeping fleet has been strengthened and re-organized to meet the menace.

It will take a little time for the counter-measures to make the seas safe, but at present, at any rate, the menace is held in check.

These minesweeping boats are chiefly manned by volunteers and fishermen, and as an instance of the remarkable qualities of these men, he told the story of a peaceful fishing trawler which was shelled at close range by a U-boat.

The trawler crew launched their boat while shells whizzed all around them. The U-boat, after seeing the small trawler sink, left the crew to their fate in the North Sea.

BLOCKED BY FOOT

While it was being launched, the ship's boat had a hole knocked in its side, and it was in danger of sinking. The engineer, however, promptly stuck his foot into the hole and the other members of the crew plastered it into place with tallow and grease.

For 22 hours, he kept his foot in one position, for the lives of all depended on him. They all got ashore safe.—Reuter.

TAKE ANY TRAM or HAPPY VALLEY BUS. **CATHAY** DAILY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20, & 9.30 P.M. MATINEES—20c, 30c, 40c. EVENINGS—20c, 30c, 50c, 70c, 80c.

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SEE! Mickey Rooney as a rootin', tootin' terror of the range . . . you'll howl as he meets his match!

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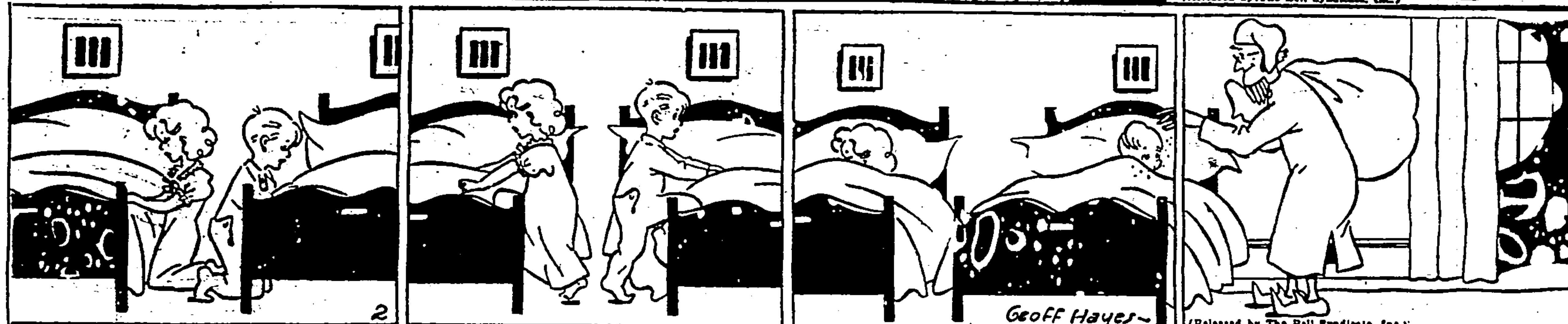
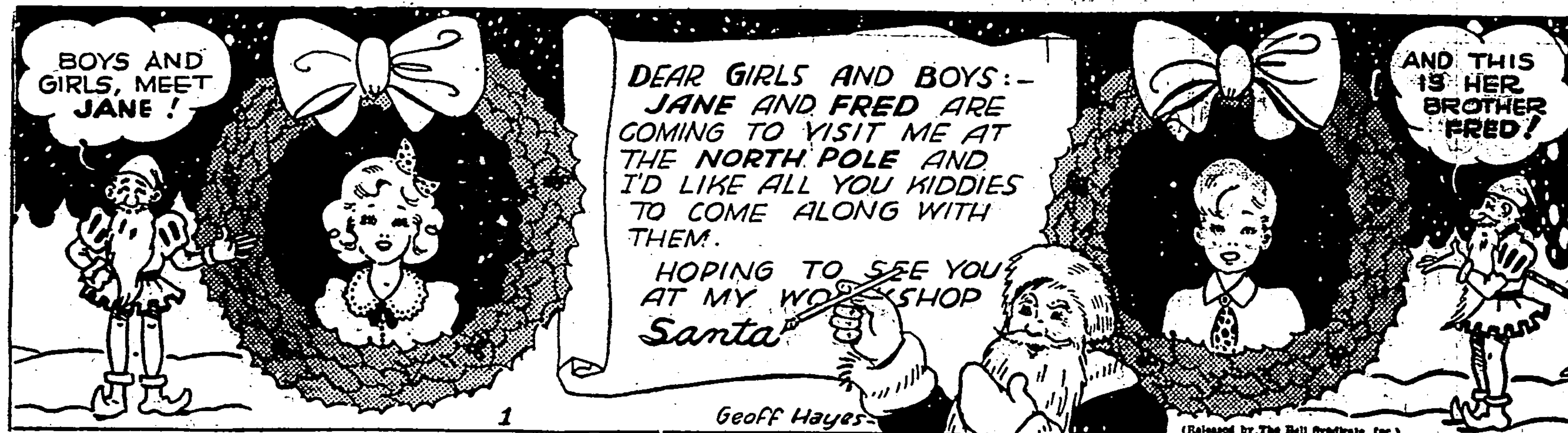
OUT WEST WITH THE HARDYS
Lewis STONE • Mickey ROONEY
Gaila PARKER • Fay HOLDEN

WEDNESDAY
FOX
Picture

Shirley Temple in
"HEIDI"

JANE AND FRED'S CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE — COME ONE, COME ALL !

By GEOFF HAYES

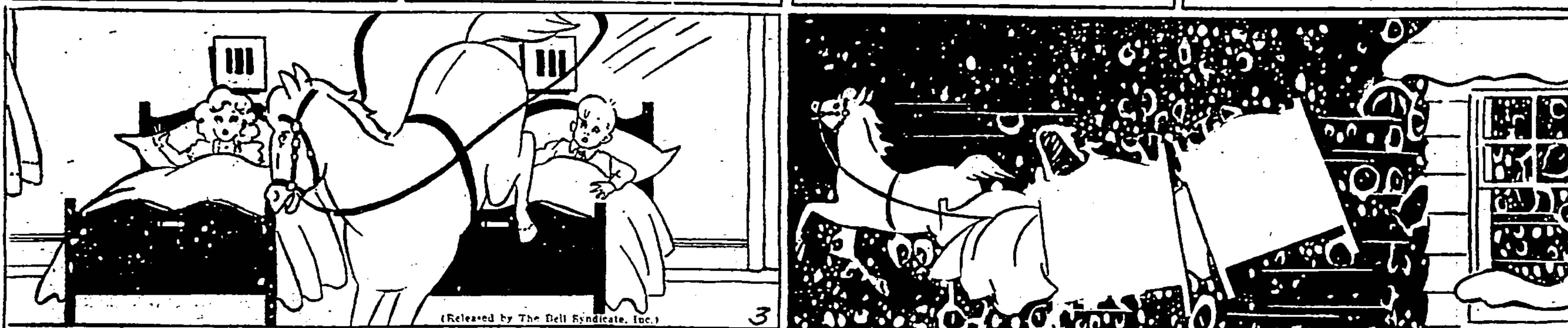


"GOOD-NIGHT," CALLED OUT MOM, FROM THE FOOT OF THE STAIRS, AS JANEY AND FRED FINISHED SAYING THEIR PRAYERS.

THE HALL CLOCK STRUCK EIGHT AS THEY CLIMBED IN THEIR BEDS AND PULLED THE WARM COVERS RIGHT UP TO THEIR HEADS.

FRED'S EYES FELT SO HEAVY HE STIFLED A YAWN AND SETTLED HIMSELF FOR A LONG WINTER'S NAP.

WHEN HE SPIED AN OLD MAN WITH A BAG FULL OF SAND, WHICH HE SPRINKLED AROUND WITH HIS LONG, BONEY HAND.



THEY HAD JUST GONE TO BED WHEN, TO THEIR SURPRISE, A FUNNY OLD SANDMAN DROPPED SAND IN THEIR EYES.

THEN A BIG WHITE HORSE JUMPED OVER THEIR HEADS AND HITCHED HERSELF ON TO THE FOOT OF THEIR BEDS.

THEN OUT THROUGH THE WINDOW THEY FLEW LIKE A FLASH, IT SEEMED FOR A MOMENT THEY SURELY WOULD CRASH.

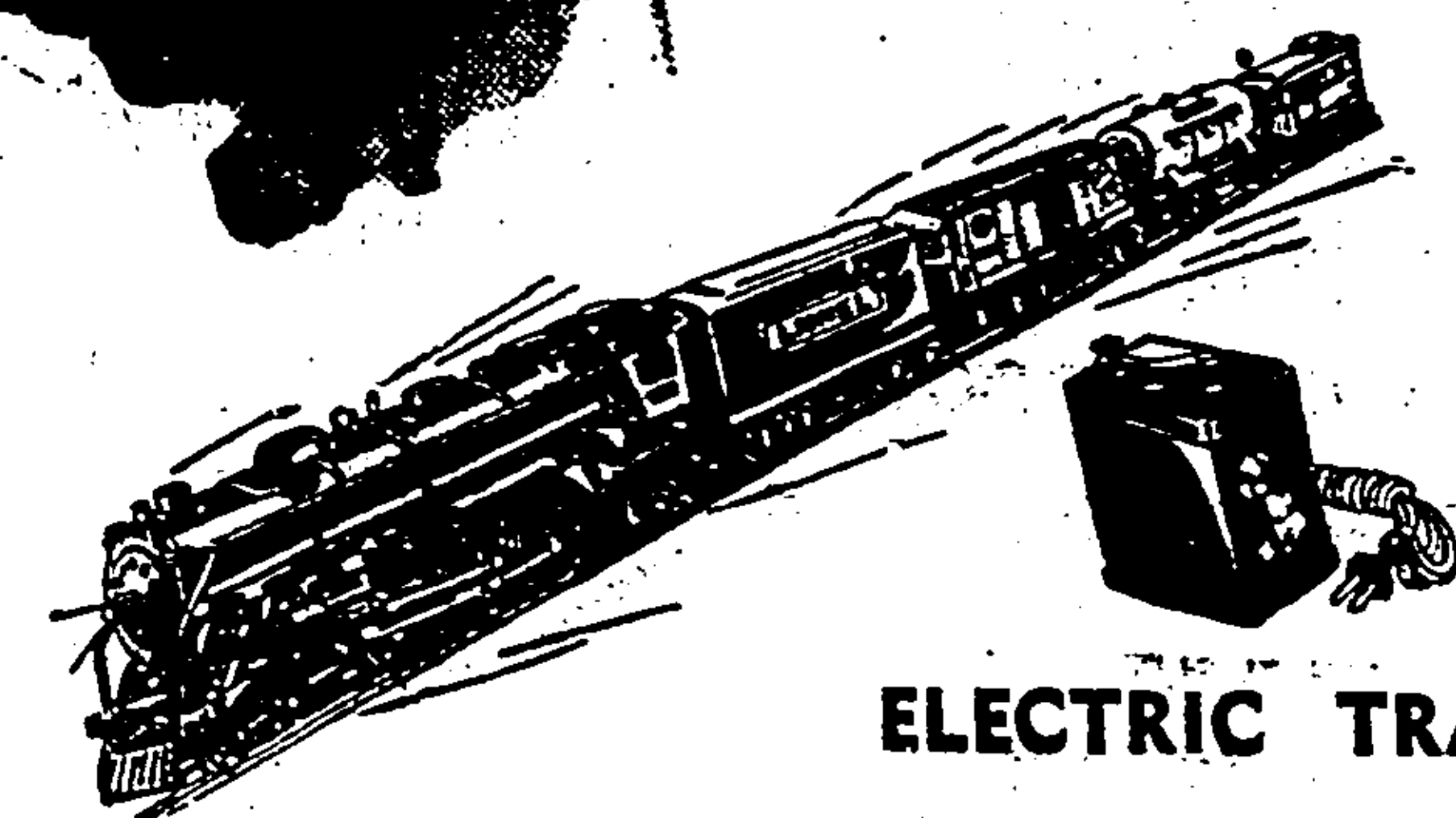
THE STEED SEEMED TO BE SO AT HOME IN THE AIR, THEY KNEW IN A TWINKLING SHE WAS A NIGHTMARE.



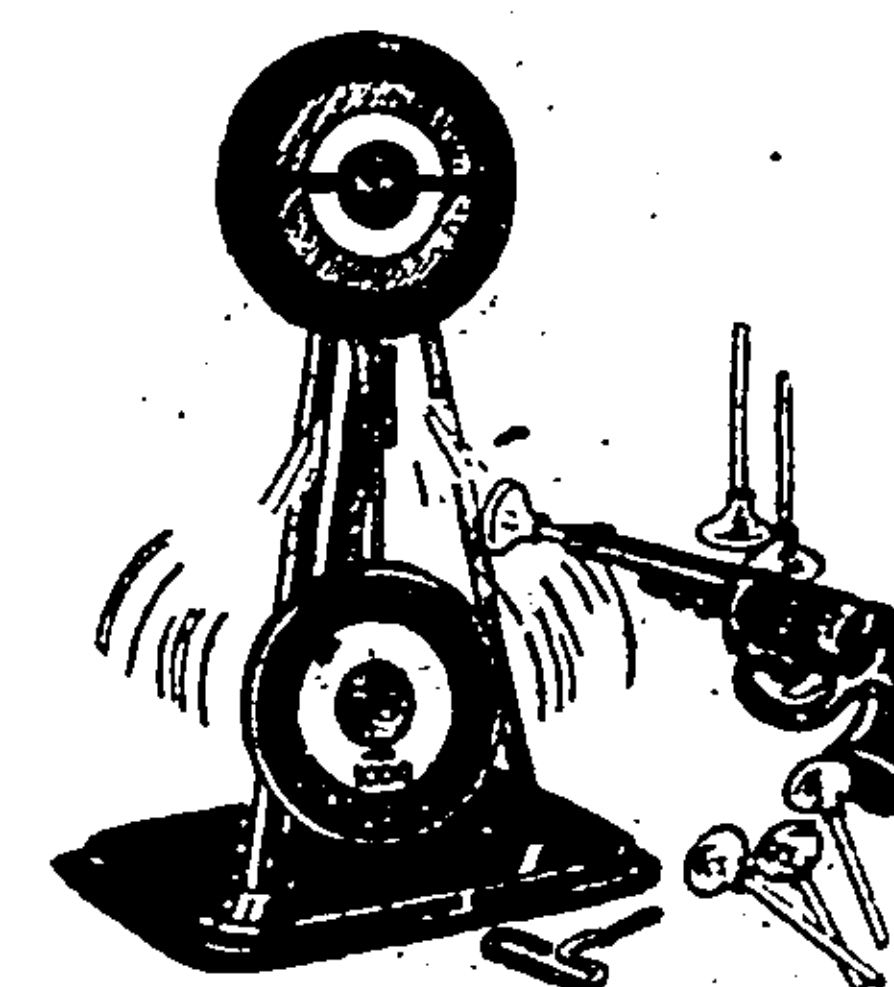
"I WENT FIRST TO WHITEAWAY'S



THEY HAVE "VARIETY."



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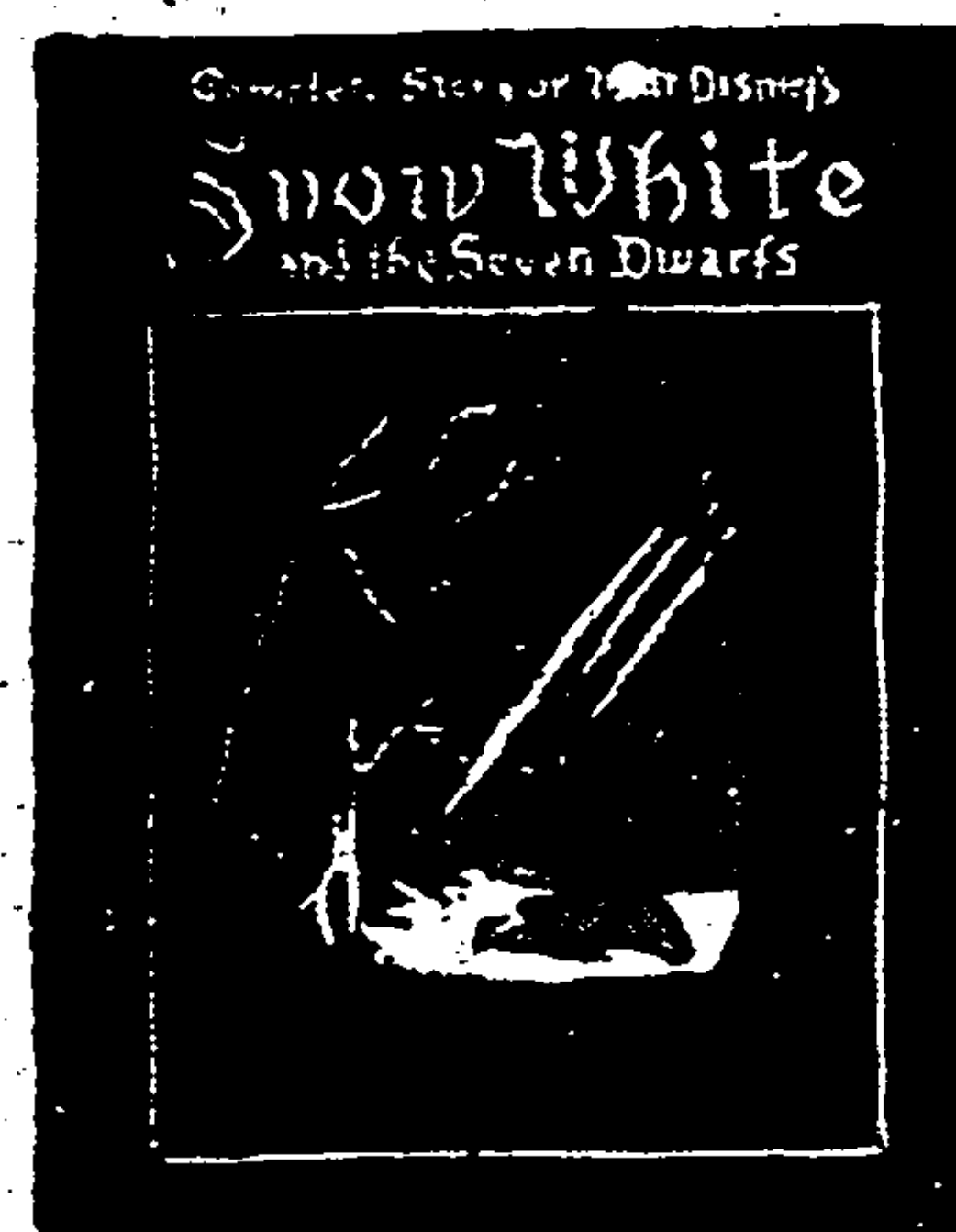
AND

POLAR BEARS

POP GUNS



GIFTS THAT LAST BOOKS OF ALL KINDS



FOR ALL AGES

SPECIAL BUMPER
BOOK FOR BOYS
AND GIRLS.

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RAG BOOKS FOR
THE TOTS

DRAWING BOOKS
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TALES



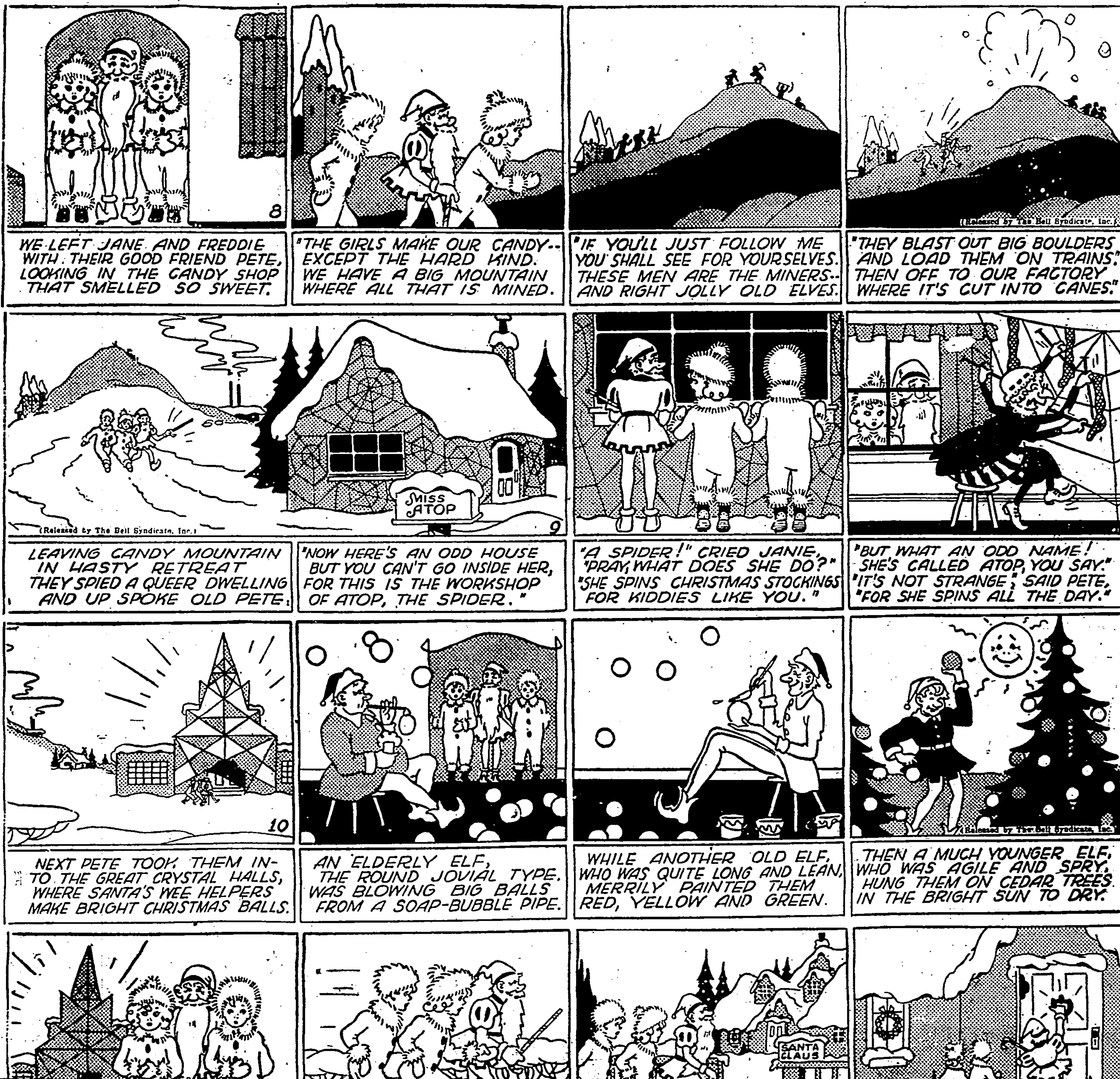
ALL THE
LATEST
GAMES

"CAN YOU GO"

WORD

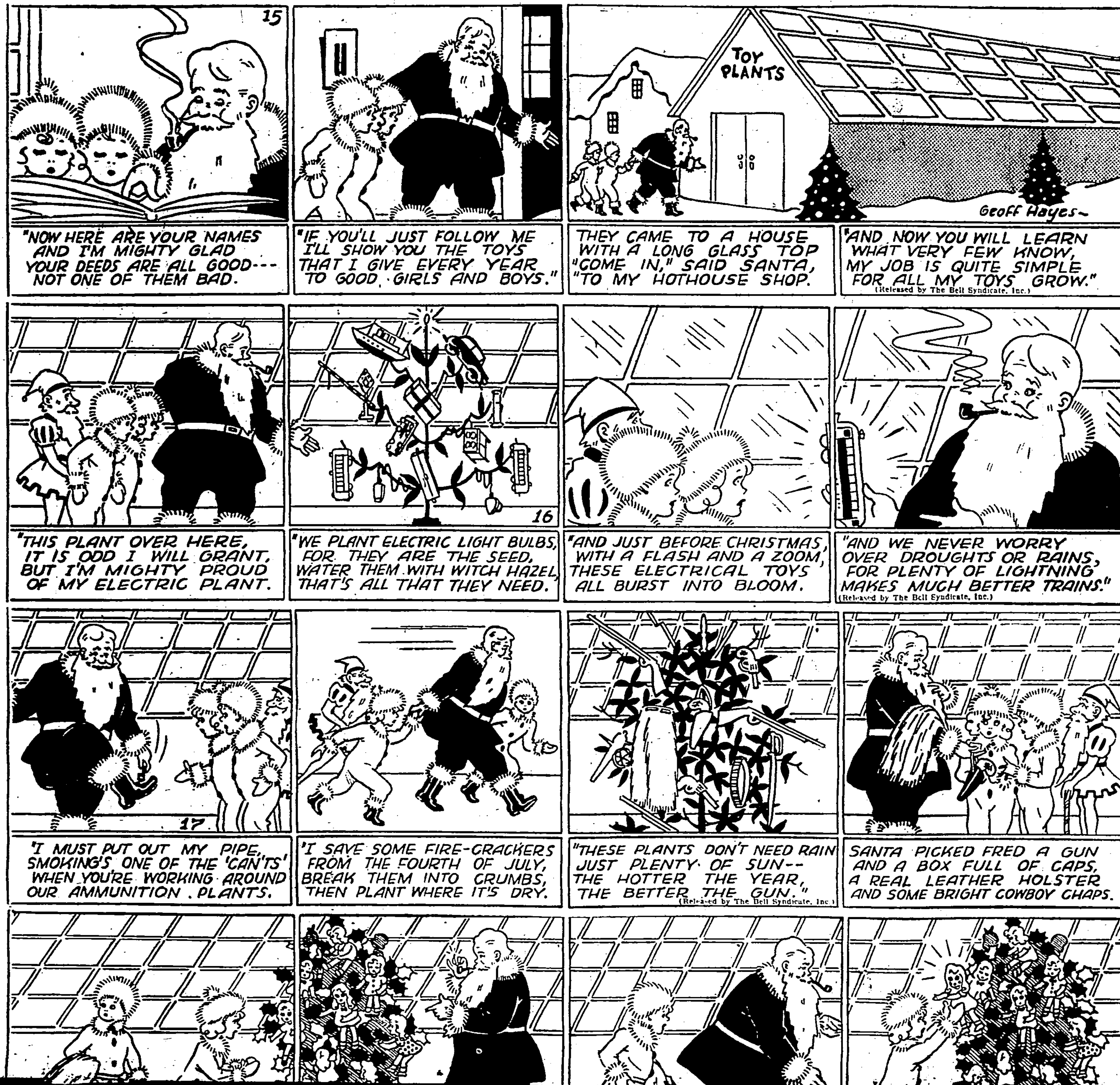
JANE AND FRED'S CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE — ROCK CANDY MOUNTAIN

By GEOFF HAYES.



JANE AND FRED'S CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE — SANTA'S HOT HOUSE

By GEOFF HAYES.



WHITEAWAY'S

FOR

FUN



COMPLETE

"SNOW WHITE"

COLLECTION

IN RUBBER AND RAG.
EIGHT IN SET



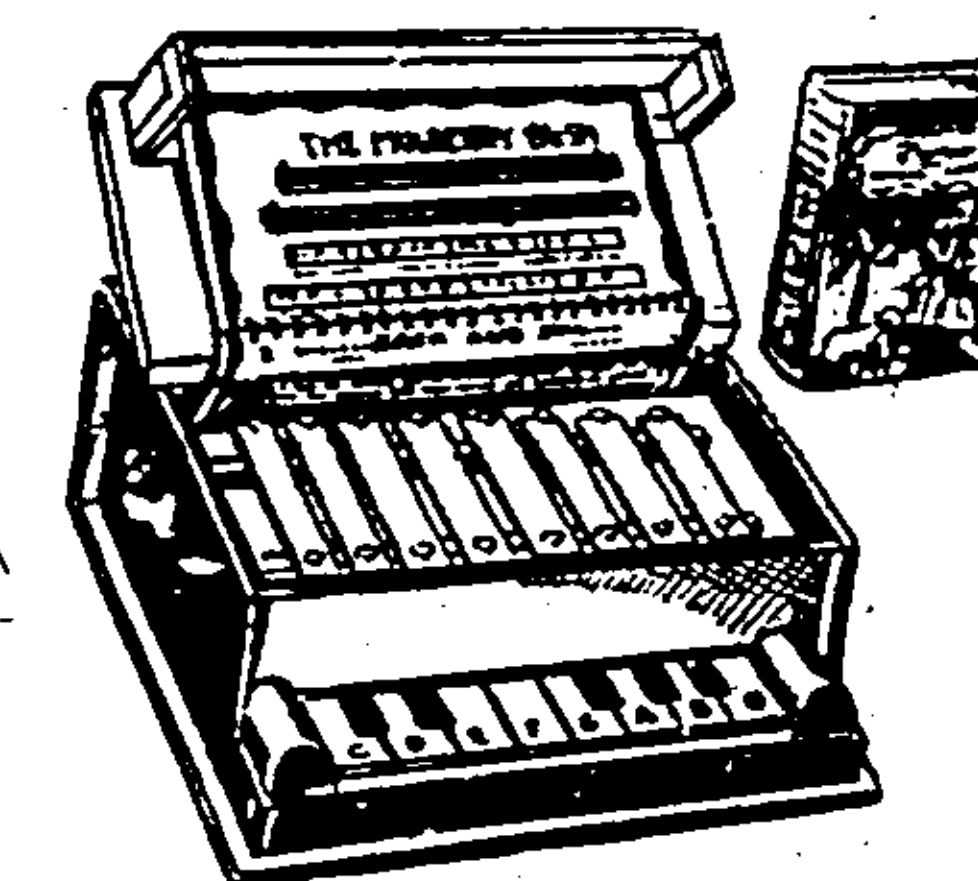
JANE AND FRED'S CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE — A HITCH IN THEIR PLANS!

By GEOFF HAYES.



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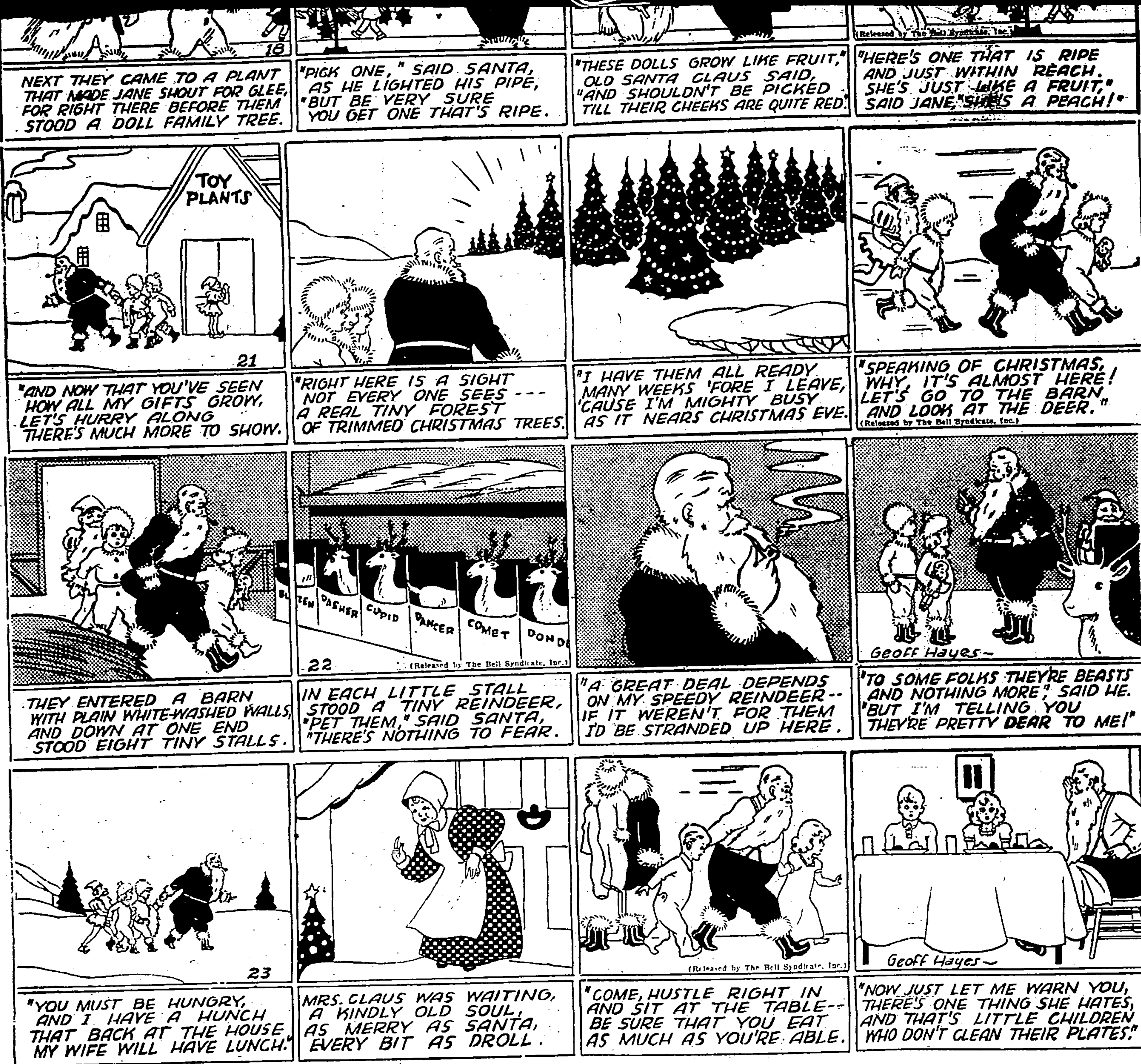


DOLL'S COTS

DOLL-HOUSES AND
FURNITURE
PRAMS
CHARLIE MCCARTHY
SPECIAL

CHRISTMAS





SHOP EARLY AT WHITEAWAY'S



ARTISTIC ALL RUBBER
FIGURETTES

DECORATED IN
PERMANENT COLOURS.



HYGIENIC
TOYS FROM
THE PAGES
OF
"SNOW WHITE"

WHITEAWAY'S

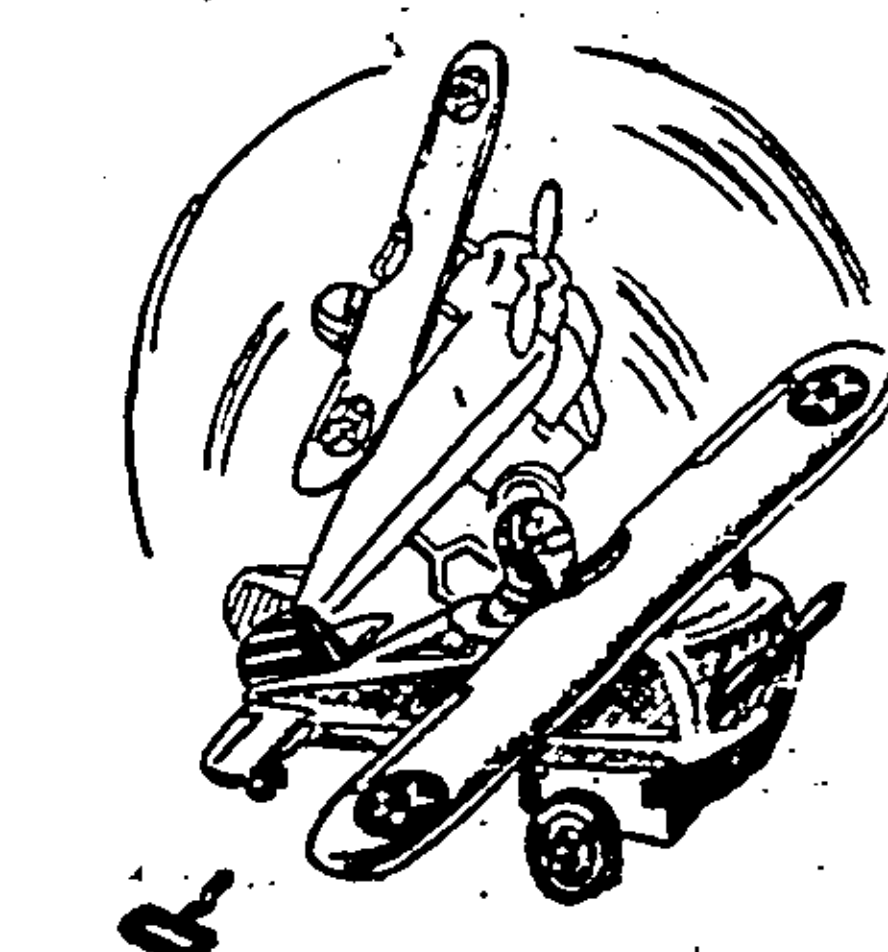
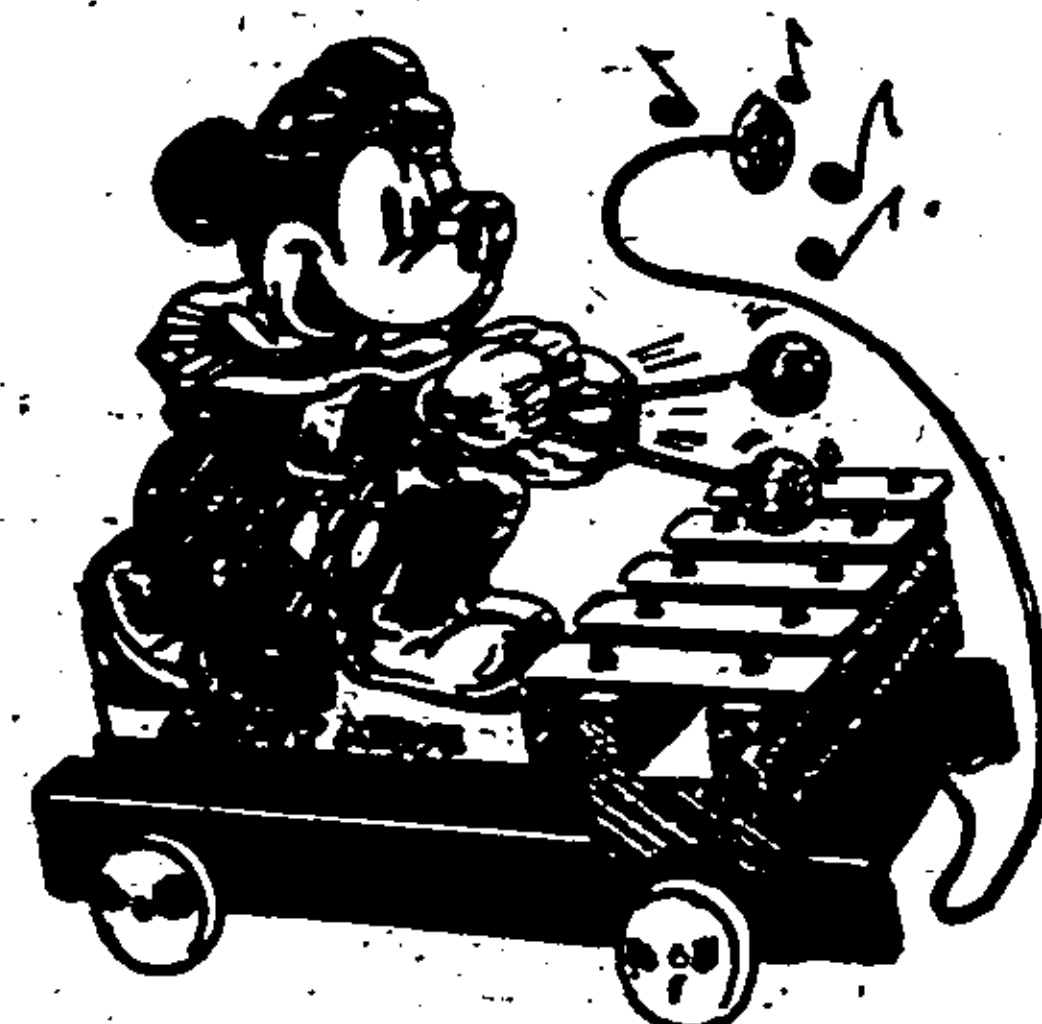
FOR THE

**BEST SELECTION
OF TOYS IN TOWN!**

"SOLITAIRE"
"SPEED"
"KARGO"
"BELISHA"



MICKEY MOUSE
ON WHEELS.

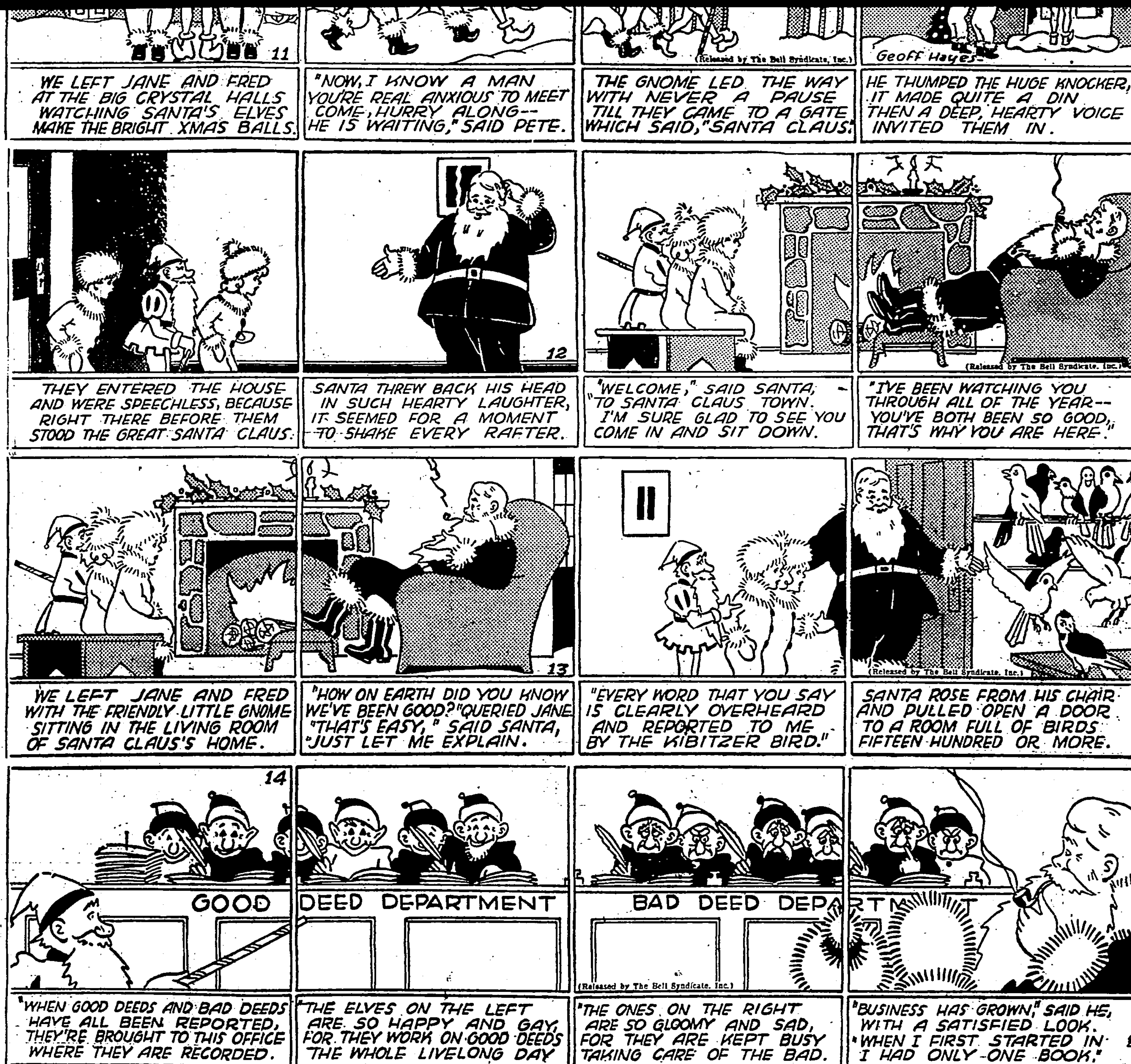


SHOP
EARLY

WHITEAWAY'S
FOR
CHOICE & ECONOMY

CHEMISTRY
SETS FOR
THE OLDER
BOYS.

AEROPLANES
IN ALL SIZES
AND SHAPES TO
AMUSE ALL
AGES.



SHOP EARLY AT WHITEAWAY'S

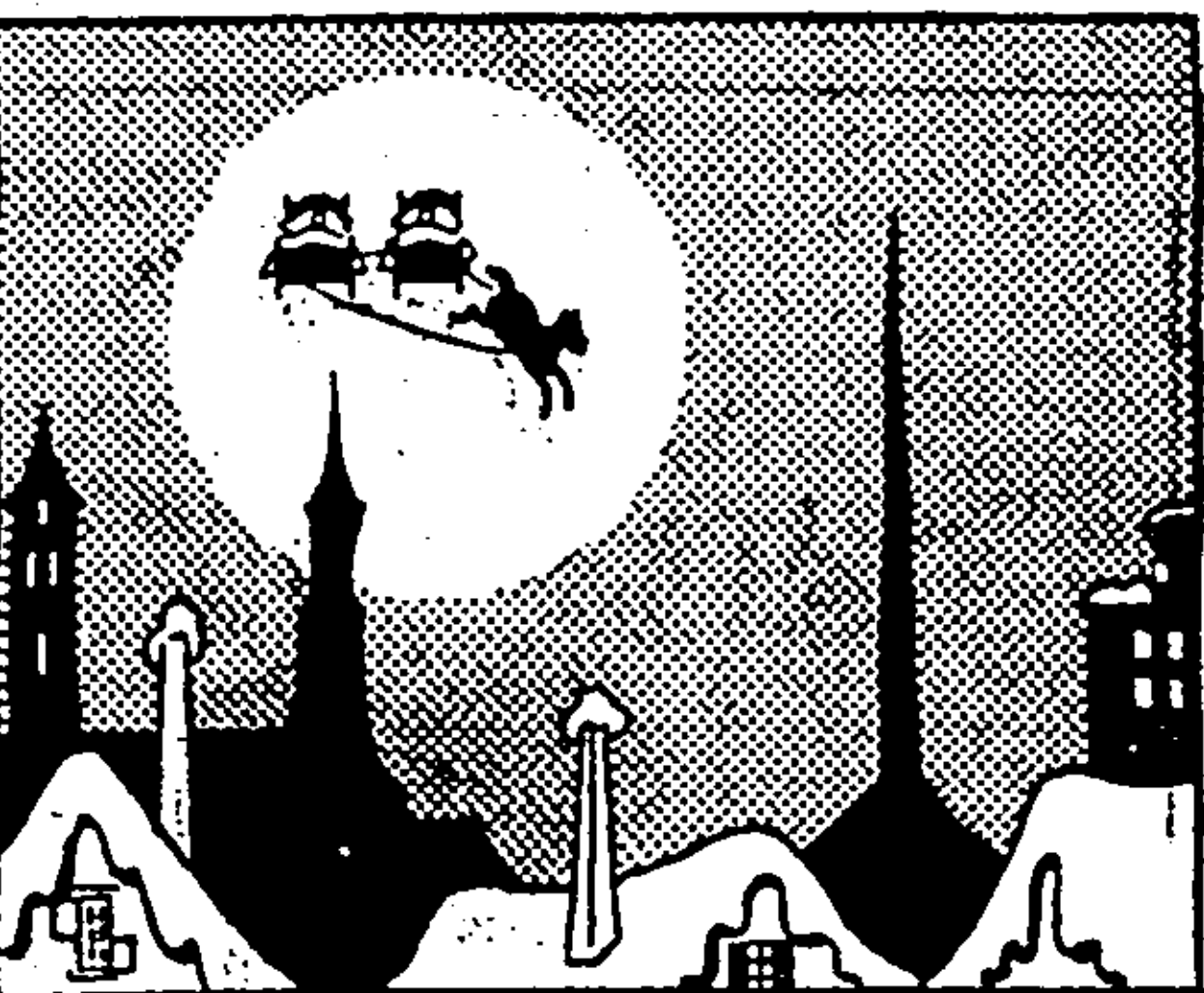
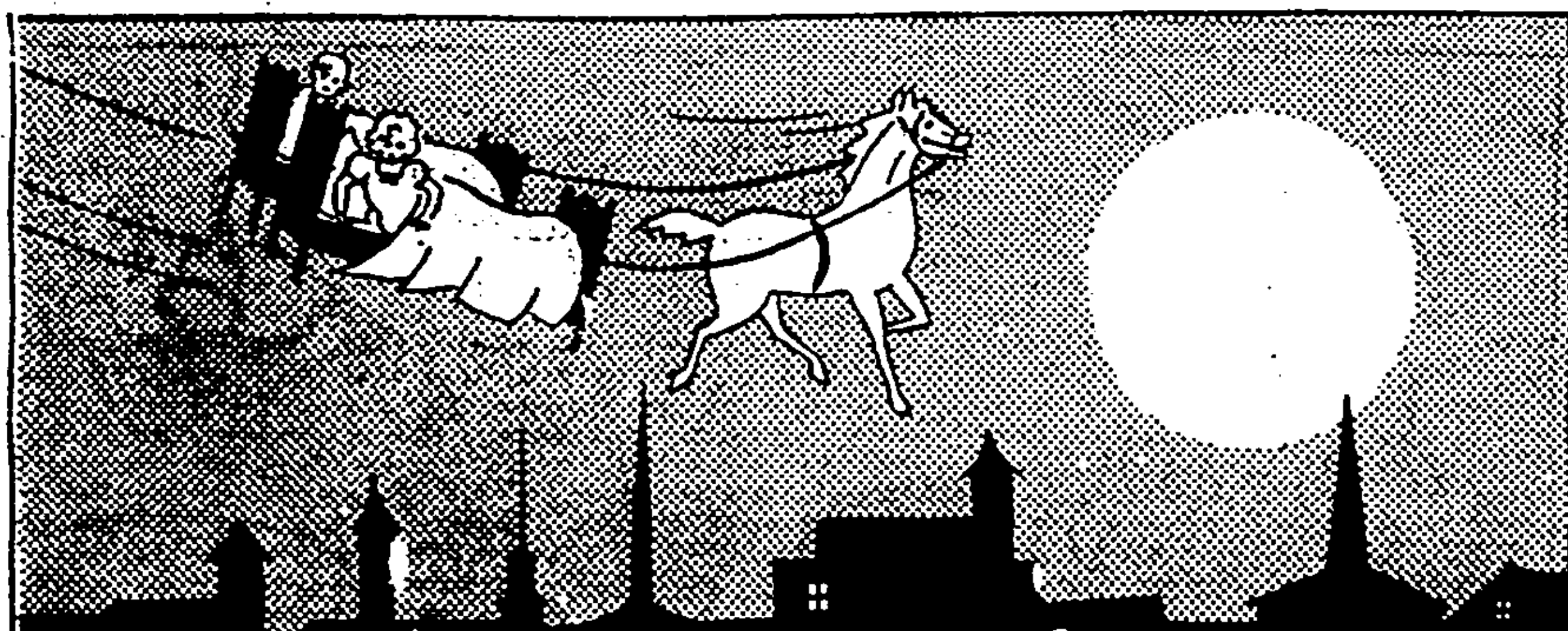
Geoff Hayes - (Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

AFTER THE SANDMAN
THREW SAND IN THEIR EYES,
A HORSE DRAGGED THEIR BEDS
UP INTO THE SKIES.

THEN THEY STARTED TO CLIMB
ON THE FAST-FALLING SNOW
AND SOON THE WHOLE VILLAGE
WAS FAR, FAR BELOW.

FOR AN AWFUL LONG TIME
THEY FLEW THROUGH THE SKY
AND SOON JANE AND FRED
BECAME HUNGRY AND DRY.

SO THEY STOPPED AT THE DIPPER
THEIR THIRST TO APPEASE,
WHILE FROM THE BIG MOON
THEY SLICED SOME GREEN CHEESE.



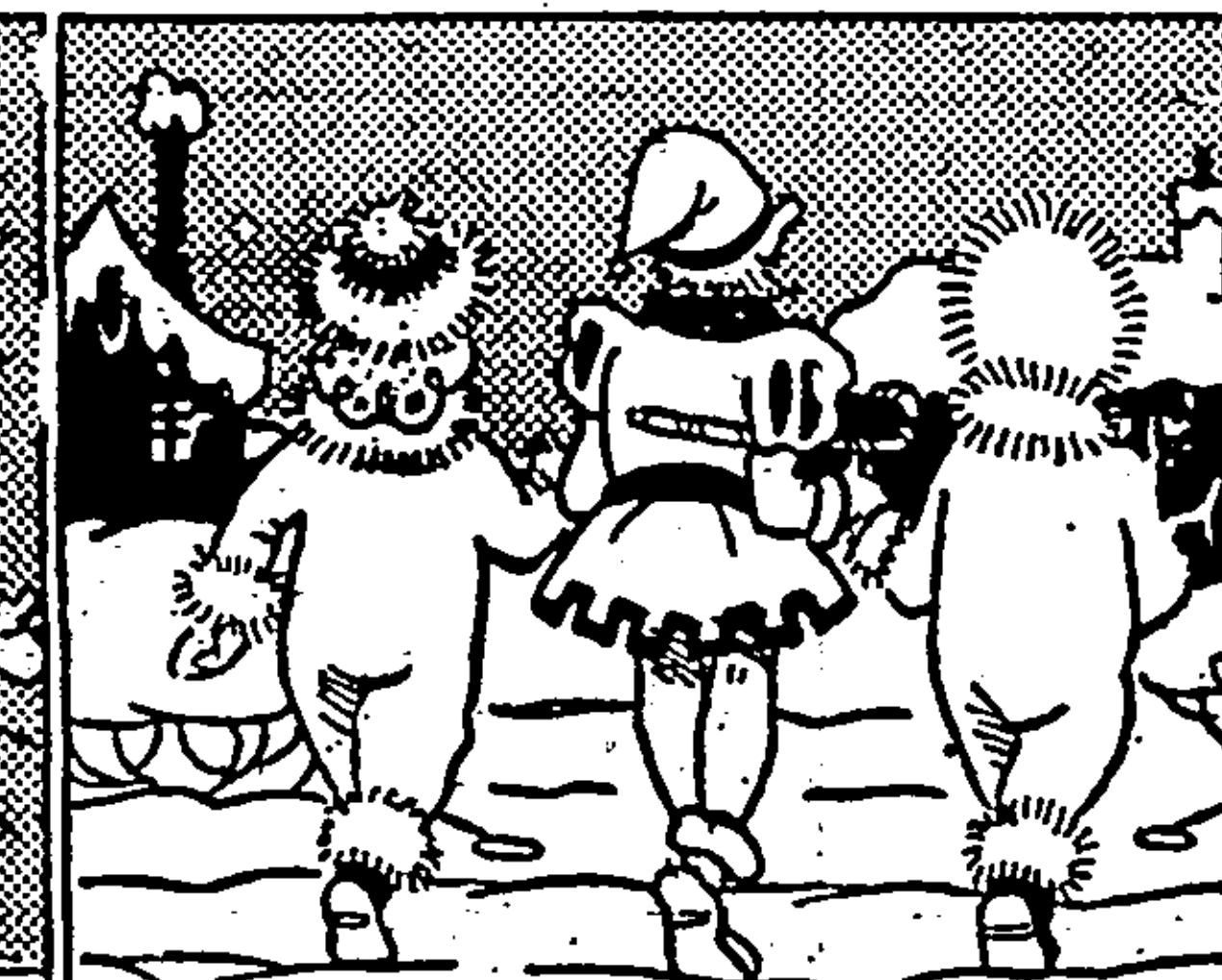
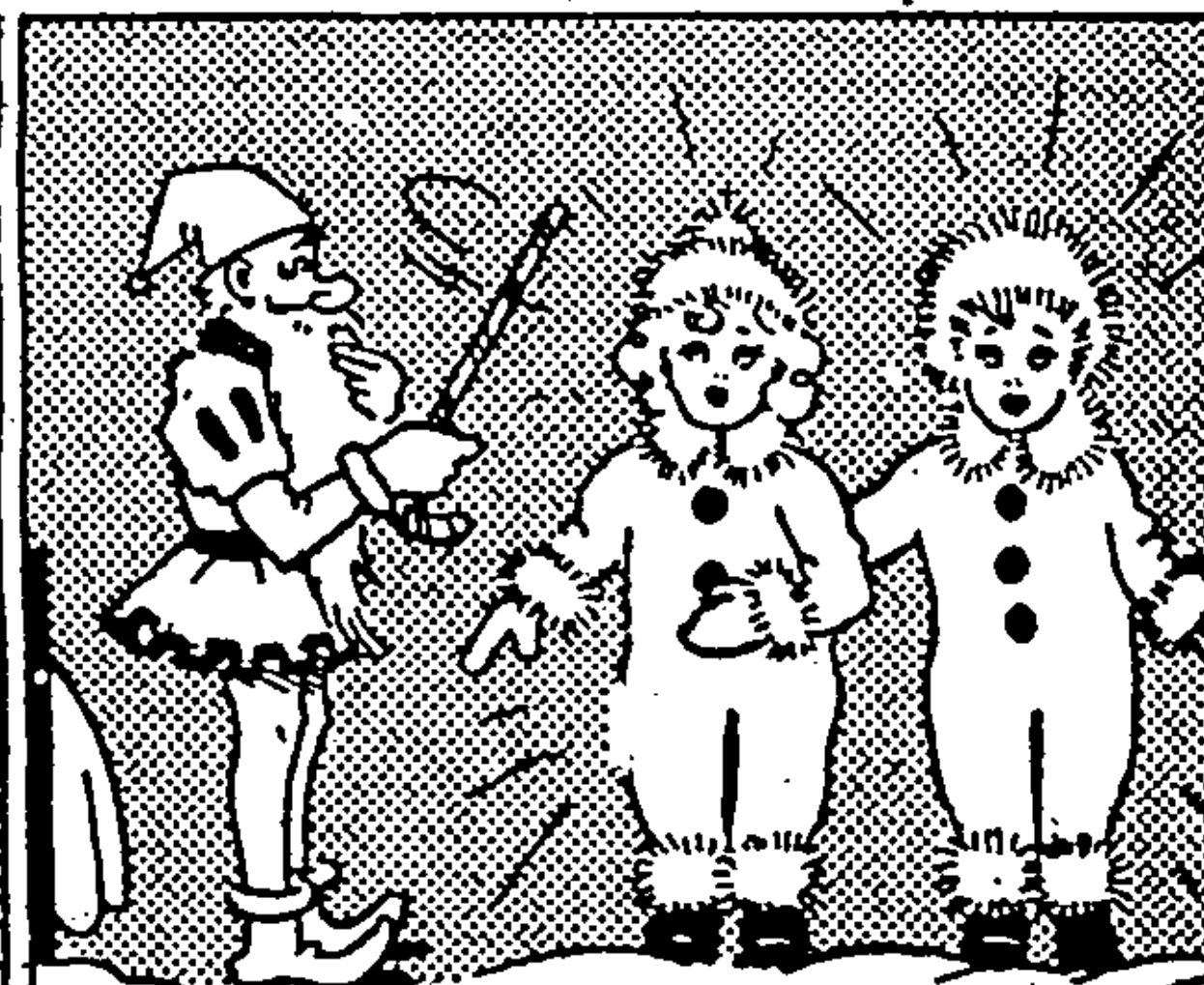
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

WE LEFT THE CHILDREN
UP IN THE AIR,
NOW WE'LL CONTINUE
RIGHT ON FROM THERE.

NOW JUST WHEN IT SEEMED
THAT THEY'D NEVER COME DOWN,
THEY SPIED THE TALL SPIRES
OF A QUEER LITTLE TOWN.

"I WONDER," SAID FRED,
"WHAT TOWN THIS COULD BE?"
"I THINK," REPLIED JANE,
"THAT SOON WE SHALL SEE."

THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN
THE MARE GAVE A SWOOP
AND CAME TO A HALT
MIDST AN ODD-LOOKING GROUP.

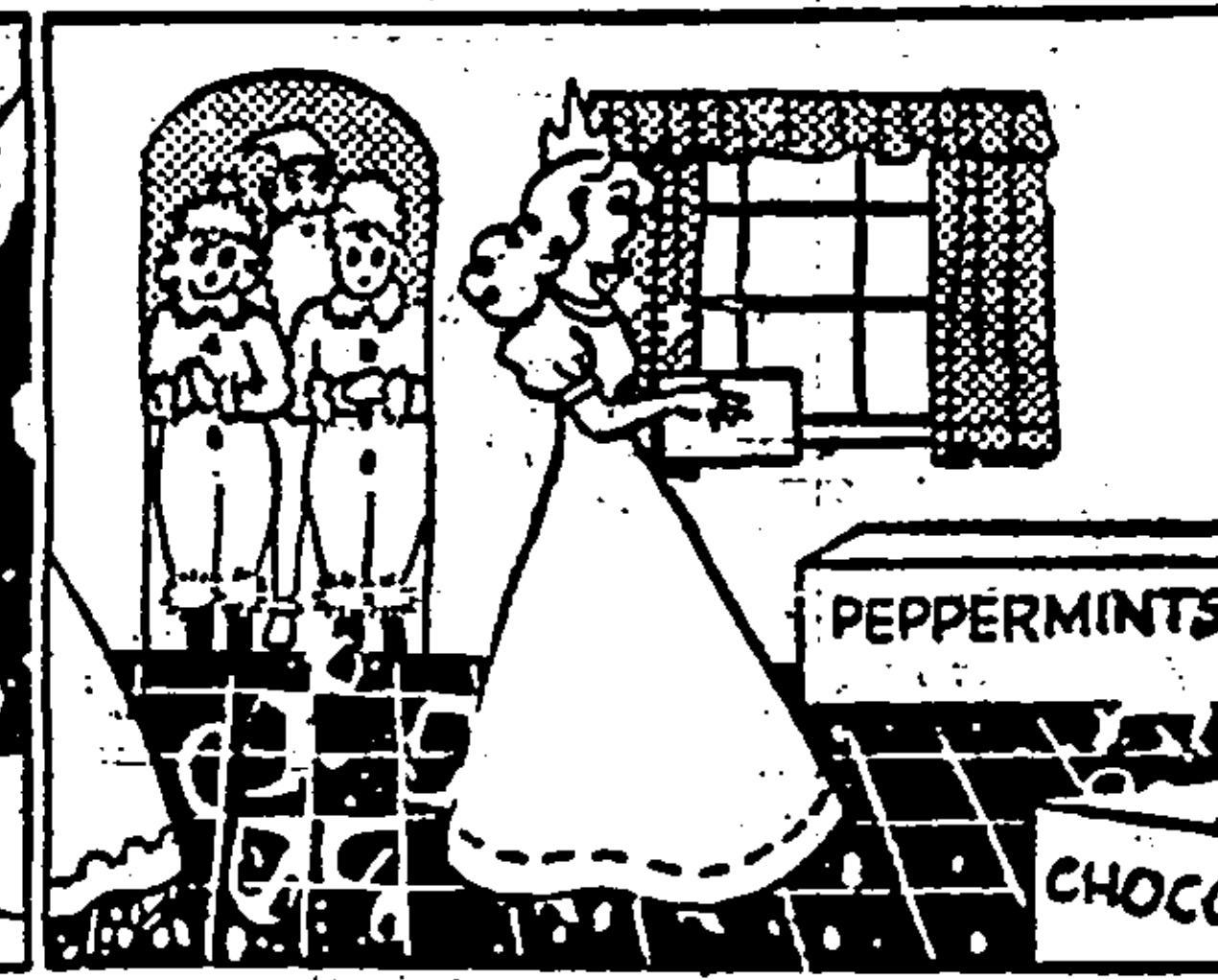
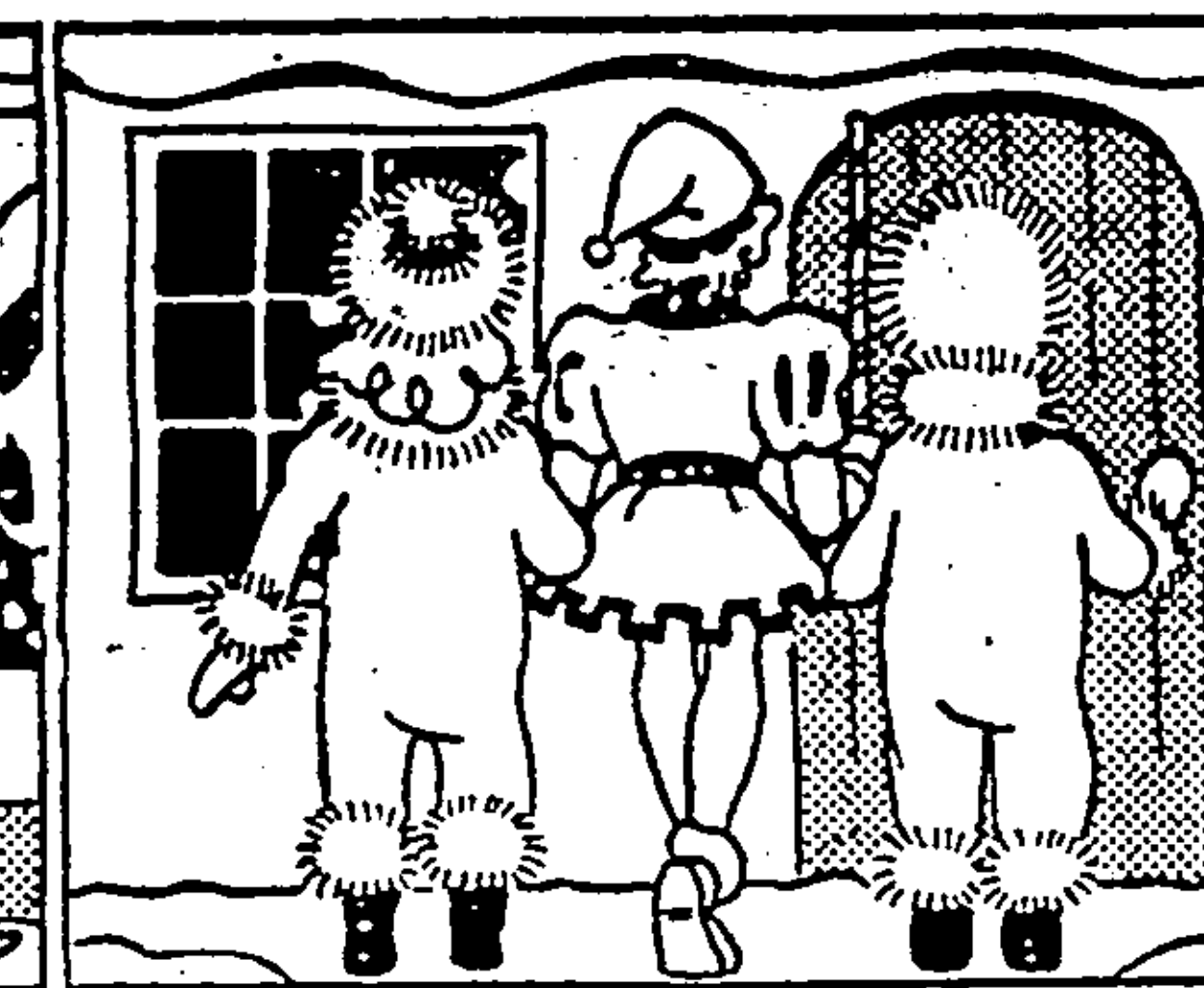


THEY FLEW THROUGH THE HEAVENS
TILL AT LAST THEY CAME DOWN
MIDST A GROUP OF WEE GNOMES
IN A STRANGE LITTLE TOWN.

"NOW DON'T YOU BE FRIGHTENED,"
SAID A KIND-LOOKING GNOME,
"WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU--
MAKE YOURSELVES RIGHT AT HOME."

"BUT FIRST," SAID OUR FRIEND,
"YOU MUST HAVE SOME WARM SUITS."
AS HE WAVED HIS WEE CANE
THEY WERE CLOTHED HEAD TO BOOTS.

"COME ALONG, MY YOUNG FRIENDS,
TAKE HOLD OF MY HAND,
AND I'LL SHOW YOU THE SIGHTS
OF SANTA CLAUS' LAND."



SO THEY WENT WITH THE GNOME,
WHO THEY LEARNED WAS NAMED PETE,
TILL THEY CAME TO A HOUSE
THAT SMELLED TERRIBLY SWEET.

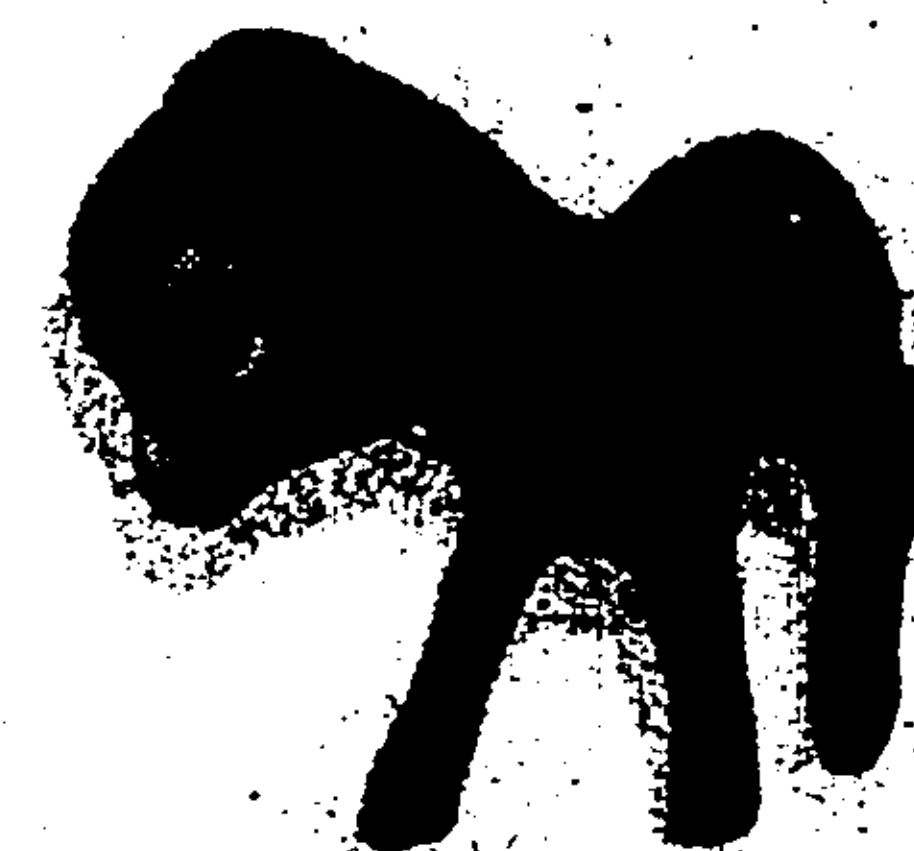
"WHAT'S THAT ODOR?" ASKED FRED,
"IT SMELLS RATHER DANDY."
"I THINK," REPLIED JANIE,
"SOME ONE'S MAKING CANDY."

"RIGHT AS RAIN!" SAID THE GNOME,
AND PULLED OPEN THE DOOR,
WHERE TEN PRETTY MAIDENS,
SORTED CANDY GALORE.

"SANTA ONLY EMPLOYS
FAIRY QUEENS HERE," SAID PETE,
"AND THAT IS WHAT MAKES
CHRISTMAS CANDY SO SWEET."

SHOP EARLY AT WHITEAWAY'S

AIR GUNS



SOFT TOYS FOR THE

WEE MITES
CATS DOGS
MONKEYS
RABBITS
DUCKS
CHICKENS
STANDING OR
SITTING



COME AND SEE
TOYLAND

AT

WHITEAWAY'S

THE STORE FOR ALL

FORGED MORTGAGE ALLEGATION

THAT TWO MORTGAGES FOR \$35,000 AND \$5,000 PURPORTING TO HAVE BEEN EXECUTED BY THE THREE JOINT OWNERS OF PROPERTY IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WERE FORGERIES, AND WERE NULL AND VOID, WAS CLAIMED BY MR. ELTON POTTER, K.C. ON BEHALF OF THE OWNERS AT THE SUPREME COURT THIS MORNING.

Plaintiffs were Chan Fui-hing, Chan Suk-tin and Chan Kwok-nin and they asked the Court (1) for a declaration that the two mortgages were forgeries (2) a declaration that defendant had no right in nor was entitled to the property; (3) rectification of the Register of the Land Office; (4) an account of all rents and profits relating to the property and received by the defendant since he entered into possession; and (5) an injunction against defendant from collecting or receiving the rents or otherwise acting as mortgagee of the property.

Mr. Eldon Potter, K.C., and the Hon. Mr. Leo D'Almada, instructed by Mr. C. D'Almada, are for the plaintiffs. Defendant is represented by Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., and Mr. H. C. Macnamara, instructed by Mr. M. M. Watson.

Mr. Potter said the mortgages were alleged to have been made on October 29, 1937 and November 2, 1938 and were for \$55,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

In the statement of defence, there was no allegation of fraud in any shape or form, nor was there any suggestion that plaintiffs had authorised some other person to sign the deeds. The defence was to put plaintiffs to the proof of all the allegations in the statement of claim, and pleaded that inasmuch as a mortgage had been made to the Overseas Bank in 1925 for banking facilities, the defendant, as an equity, was entitled to relief to the extent which he had paid in respect of it. In ordinary circumstances, said Mr. Potter, defendant was perfectly entitled to such relief, but his case was that the Overseas Bank mortgage was also a forgery.

Continuing, Mr. Potter said his clients were owners, in equal share, of Inland Lot No. 1828 on which were two houses, No. 300, Des Voeux Road Central and No. 92, Wing Lok Street. The premises adjoined. The date of purchase, so far as first and third plaintiffs were concerned, was May 30, 1935; the second plaintiff acquired his share on November 29, 1937.

The first plaintiff was 69 years of age and was a native of Sha Kau

Village, Shun Tak District. He was in business in Mauritius for 40 years as a grocer and before his retirement in 1929 had visited South China, including Hong Kong, on four occasions. His last visit before retirement was in 1924 when he stayed for three years in his village, and occasionally visited Hong Kong. Whilst in the Colony he invariably stayed at the Kwong Fook Shing firm, No. 300, Des Voeux Road Central which was owned by a clansman.

In May, 1925, when he was on one of his occasional visits, it was suggested that it would be a good investment if he purchased Inland Lot No. 1828. He considered the proposition but found it impossible to buy the lot alone as it cost too much — \$110,000. Eventually it was agreed that he and the third plaintiff should each buy a share. Third plaintiff's father was originally the owner of the property and it was held in trust. At the time of the purchase, third plaintiff was entitled to a share of the estate.

The rents were collected by the Kwong Fook Shing firm which also kept the title deeds. They had been doing this for years because the father of third plaintiff had been also a partner of the firm.

In 1933, the firm closed down and rents were collected by Chan Shui-wa, a clansman, of the third plaintiff, who accounted for the amounts annually and remitted the proceeds.

First plaintiff is held in high esteem by his village, and was entrusted with the ancestral funds from 1929. There was no reason for him to execute the mortgage with the Overseas Banking Corporation. At the time of the alleged mortgage, plaintiff was not in the Colony. On outbreak of the Sino-Japanese trouble, it was deemed advisable by the villagers to form a committee, to purchase and store rice before the position became acute. Plaintiff was appointed principal treasurer and it would be shown that on the material day he was in the village and signed receipts for amounts collected. He also denied that the signatures on the mortgage were his.

On the date of the second mortgage, he says he was in the village distributing rice as the Japanese had already invaded the adjoining districts. He had to escape from the village.

Second plaintiff was manager of the Kwong Fook Shing firm for six years prior to its closing down. He had previously purchased a share of the Company.

(Continued on Page 14)

LEE THEATRE

5 Shows Daily at: 12.30, 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

Prices: 20c-35c-55c.

• TO-DAY ONLY •



Marlene Dietrich Charles Boyer
THE GARDEN OF ALLAH
IN TECHNICOLOR
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

• TO-MORROW •
CHINESE PICTURE

Wed. Frederic March, Merle Oberon
"THE DARK ANGEL"

Thu. Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier
"WUTHERING HEIGHTS"

Fri. Katharine Hepburn, Frederic March
"MARY OF SCOTLAND"

QUEENS & ALHAMBRA

HONG KONG KOWLOON
AT 2.30-5.15 7.20-9.30 P.M. AT 2.30 5.20-7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW — At Roadshow Prices!

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GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S

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AT LEAST FORTY GERMAN SUBMARINES DESTROYED SINCE OUTBREAK OF WAR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

IT IS RELIABLY STATED that the total number of German submarines sunk since the outbreak of war is at least forty, including units of various types.

The total of German submarines ready for service at the outbreak is generally believed, in naval quarters, to have been about sixty.

It is pointed out by competent observers that Germany's main difficulties for the future will consist not so much in building more submarines to replace losses as in finding adequate numbers of trained crews.

It is believed that Germany's intensified mine warfare is partly due to the necessity to alleviate this difficulty, but it has been established beyond a doubt that the Allies have found adequate defence measures to cope with the mine danger.—Havas.

GERMAN CAPACITY TO BUILD

LONDON, TO-DAY.

IT WAS LEARNED IN LONDON YESTERDAY THAT GERMANY IS UNLIKELY TO BE ABLE TO REPLACE SUBMARINES MORE RAPIDLY THAN THE PRESENT RATE OF LOSING THEM, NAMELY TWO TO FOUR A WEEK.

The German estimate for future U-boat output is not available but the "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" claims that the 1917 output, estimated at one a day, can be greatly exceeded.

According to figures available in official circles in London, however the rate of commissioning of German submarines in 1917 averaged seven a month, and the highest monthly number was 13.

Doubt is expressed as to whether it is possible to approach that figure given the shortage of materials, the absence of skilled labour and the diversion of workers and the production of ersatz materials for the service of the armed forces.—Reuter.



Are You Handicapped By Rheumatism?

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Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Have helped many sufferers.

BRITISH TROOPS IN ACTION

FROM REUTER'S SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE B. E. F. SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE.

TO-DAY.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE WAR BEGAN, BRITISH TROOPS ARE FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FORCES. A PORTION OF THE BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IS NOW UNDER FRENCH COMMAND AND OCCUPYING A PORTION OF THE MAGINOT LINE OUTSIDE THE BRITISH ZONE.

THERE HAS BEEN SOME PATROL ACTIVITY AND OCCASIONAL MUTUAL SHELLING IN THIS PART OF THE FRONT.

THERE HAVE BEEN NO BRITISH CASUALTIES.—REUTER.

HERO OF 16 MET ENEMY

A sixteen year-old survivor of H.M.S. Royal Oak, sunk at Scapa Flow by an enemy submarine, shook hands with a twenty-three-year-old U-boat man.

They met at a large internment camp, where U-boat crews are held as prisoners of war.

The visitor to the camp was Douglas Newton, of Lees-road, Oldham, now on fourteen days' leave after a remarkable escape from death at Scapa Flow. He had been given special permission to visit the camp.

After jumping overboard when the Royal Oak was torpedoed, Douglas was rescued by a picket boat. It overturned. Then he swam for two hours in the dark before being picked up by a drifter.

Speaking of his visit to the camp, Douglas told the press: "This is the first time I have had a sight of the enemy."

"Only one man could speak a little English. Pointing his thumb downwards, he asked me if I was serving in a submarine."

"I told him I was in the Royal Oak when it was torpedoed. He did not seem to know anything about it."

"He told another prisoner and they both congratulated me on my escape. The prisoners seemed quite happy at the camp, but I shall be happier when I get back on service."

Douglas has spent nearly every night of his leave writing letters of comfort to the mothers, sweethearts and wives of men who went down with the Royal Oak.

Scores had written him letters of inquiry.

YUGO-SLAVIAN FRONTIER MYSTERY

BELGRADE, TO-DAY.

Two German customs officers on a frontier post near the German-Yugoslav frontier have been shot dead. Their unknown assailant made good his escape.—Reuter.

SOVIET HOLD KEYS OF LEGATION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Moscow, To-day.

The Soviet authorities refuse to hand over the keys of the Finnish Legation to the Swedish Legation, which was entrusted with looking after Finnish interests in Moscow.

The authorities allege that they no longer recognize the legality of the Finnish Government but merely the "People's Government" set up at Terijoki, near the Finnish frontier.

On the other hand, local German circles deny that they advised diplomats of small nations not to bid farewell to the Finnish Legation staff when the latter departed from Moscow, although they admit that their advice had been asked, since the German Ambassador is doyen of the diplomatic corps.

The same sources added that the German Ambassador merely said that he himself was not going to see the Finns off.

It will be recalled that, with the exception of those representing the small Baltic states, practically the whole of the diplomatic corps saw the Finns off.—Havas.

SOVIET PROTEST TO BRITISH

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Moscow, To-day.

The Foreign Commissariat has handed to the British and French Embassies a note asserting that the Allied control of German exports is contrary to international law.—Havas.

DEEP NAZI-SOVIET UNDERSTANDING NOW SEEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

POLITICAL CIRCLES HERE are of the opinion that recent political developments confirm that the German-Soviet understanding is deeper than was at first believed.

This feeling is substantiated by the Soviet protest against the Allied control of German exports and the Nazi declaration that no German arms have recently been sent to Finland.

The Soviet protest against measures constituting reprisals against illegal methods of warfare is particularly surprising coming from a Power which has just given evidence of its respect for international law by action against Poland and the establishment of a puppet Government in the Finnish Coast after declaring that it is not at war with Poland.

The Nazi declaration that no German arms have recently been sent to Finland is also a surprise, since Berlin is compelled to supply arms to Moscow.—Havas.

ALLIES AND FINLAND'S CAUSE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

"We hope that the League will categorically condemn Soviet aggression. The general outcry in Finland's favour can only be to France's and Britain's advantage and will serve the cause for which these nations are fighting."

Thus declares the Socialist organ "Le Populaire" in an editorial which is characteristic of comments in the French press on the League Session which opens to-day.

"Excelsior" declares:—"Great Britain and France are ready to join in a demand for the Soviet's expulsion, but their delegates will probably point out that Germany is primarily responsible for the aggression policy which has opened Europe's highways to Bolshevism."

INCLUDING A BIG ONE!

The well-known commentator, Genevieve Tabouis, writes in "L'Oeuvre":

"If the Allies succeed in uniting behind them the Balkans and several other countries—including a very big one—to fight for right and justice, then Russia evidently would not be in a position to resist so powerful a front."—Havas.

AIR-RAID ARMLET FOR CLERGY

An armlet to be worn by ministers of religion who have to move about the streets during air raids has now been approved. It is of Royal Air Force blue cloth 4in wide, bearing the letters A.R.P. in red silk and a cross in white silk.

In a circular letter to local authorities the Ministry of Home Security states that the armlet is intended to confer liberty of movement for attending casualties and others in need.

Ministers who are detailed by their churches for work among the injured will wear steel helmets and have respirators, but the armlet will be the sole badge of recognition.

PILOT RUNS FOR IT

BRUSSELS, TO-DAY.

A British pilot has made a forced landing in Belgian territory owing to engine trouble. When he found that he was only 200 yards from the French frontier, he quickly switched his engine off and hid in a ditch. He was then taken to a nearby farmstead.—Reuter.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN ISTHMUS OF KARELIA

London, To-day.

PEOPLE IN THE ARCTIC region of Norway and Finland report hearing explosions from Petsamo and the loud roar of artillery from the area south of that port.

This bears out reports that Petsamo was raided by Soviet planes at 11 a.m. yesterday and again two hours later, and also confirms Finnish claims that they are still holding Petsamo, which they recaptured a week ago.

The artillery fire is thought to indicate fighting near the nickel-mines' city 30 miles south-west of Petsamo.

FINLAND AGAIN APPEALS

Helsinki, To-day.

An appeal to all the nations of the world not to let Finland fight alone has been issued by the Finnish Parliament which met yesterday.

The appeal declares: "The Finnish people are fighting for their independence, their liberty and honour. We are defending our religion, our homes and all that civilised people consider sacred."

"So far, we have been fighting alone against an enemy which invades our territory, although in actual fact it is a question of defending everything that humanity holds most precious."

"We have proved our will to do all we can in this fight. Our position as the advance post of Western civilisation entitles us to expect active assistance from all civilised nations." — Reuter.

FINNS CALL UP MORE MEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
Helsinki, To-day.

The Finns are calling up new reserves to face the concentration of Soviet troops.

It is expected that the Soviets will strike towards Etukhta and Uleaborg, in order to reach the Gulf of Bothnia and cut the Swedish-Finnish railway. — Havas.

DETAINED BY BRITISH DESTROYER

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Lisbon, To-day.

No less than 25 Germans, former members of the Panamanian Mercantile Marine, were made prisoners of war off the coast of Portugal when a British destroyer stopped the Portuguese ship Carvalho Arango, on which they were travelling. — Havas.

A Soviet communique claims that Soviet troops on Saturday were 30 miles south of Petsamo. This represents an advance of only 10 miles in the past three or four days.

The Russians also claim to have pierced the Mannerheim Line in the Karelian Isthmus.

There is no question that there has been heavy fighting in that area, but the Finns say that the Soviet attacks have been repulsed with heavy loss of tanks, armoured cars and artillery.

TROOPS BOMBED

Finnish reports state that three Soviet planes have been brought down and that Finnish planes bombed Soviet troops. The Soviet naval base of Kronstadt was also bombed.

Military law in Finland now applies to civilians, while a £8,500,000 loan has been authorised.

The Soviets have been claiming that when Soviet troops landed on one of the islands in the Gulf of Finland the inhabitants greeted them with open arms.

FIVE IN ALL

Finnish circles in Helsinki smile at this report, pointing out that the "inhabitants" of this particular island consist of four Coast Guards and a light-house keeper. The island was bombed and shelled but the five men escaped to the mainland before a single Soviet soldier set foot on the island. — Reuter.

MOSCOW UNINFORMATIVE

Moscow, To-day.

Uninformative bulletins from the Red Army during the past two days do not indicate much progress in the Finnish campaign, while the graphic, and possibly too revealing, reports of war correspondents have largely disappeared from the Soviet newspapers.

It is stated that the Finns are laying waste the country before retreating, removing the cattle, destroying food that cannot be carried away and setting fire to villages. — Reuter.

HOLDING OWN AT ALL POINTS

The Finns are continuing to hold their own at all points judging from the latest reports.

Intensified Russian attacks are taking place at Sousussalmi, the narrowest part of Finland, often known as the country's "wasp-waist," evidently with a view to driving through to the Gulf of Bothnia and splitting the country in two. The Finns have taken all precautions against a Soviet advance in this sector. — Reuter.

SOVIET OBJECTIVE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Moscow, To-day.

It is thought that the Soviet troops operating in the Petsamo region are endeavouring to reach the Finnish-Swedish border as quickly as possible in order to interrupt Finnish-Swedish railway traffic between Torneo and Haparanda.

In the Soviet objective is also naval action in the Gulf of Bothnia, which the Soviet Navy is expected to attempt to enter shortly. — Havas.

U-BOAT BOXERS TRAIN IN ENGLAND

Two Nazi boxers, one of them a sparring partner of Walter Neusel, the German heavy-weight, now train under the direction of a well-known British Boxing Board of Control referee, Sergeant-Instructor Tolley.

The boxers are members of a U-boat crew interned in a Northern camp which the referee visits as a physical training instructor.

When he first entered the camp he was recognised by the two men. They could not speak English, but made themselves known by lifting the instructor's arm above his head in the manner of a referee indicating the winner of a fight.

NEUTRAL SHIPS SUNK

London, To-day.

The Belgian steamer, Kabinda, of 5,000 tons, bound from Renambuco to Antwerp, grounded on the South-East coast on December 8 and has now broken her back.

She is regarded as a total loss.

The crew, numbering about forty, with fifty other persons who were put on board for the purpose of dumping her cargo into the sea, were all aboard at 1.30 when the ship broke in halves. At 1.30 a.m. when the ship broke in halves, but all were saved uninjured. — Reuter.

STRIKES A MINE

Amsterdam, To-day.

The Dutch motorship, Immingham,



Teeth dazzlingly white add to the charm and attraction of every woman. In beautiful women it is the completion of attractiveness. And, behind every radiant smile is Gibbs Dentifrice, the most preferred guardian of Beauty's Ivory Castles.

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11APB7

of 398 tons, struck a mine yesterday off Callantsoog, North Holland. The crew of seven has been rescued. — Reuter.

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



SOBBER

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"Junior! Don't play with that while Daddy's listening to European broadcasts!"

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SWEDEN TAKES ACTION

Appoints Commander-In-Chief Of All Forces

SHARP RISE IN SHANGHAI RICE PRICE

Chungking, To-day.
The Shanghai Municipal Council is concerned about the sharp rise in rice prices.

Mr. T. K. Ho, deputy secretary of the Council, has fixed a maximum price of \$45 per picul following a consultation with the rice Market Control Committee.

Merchants attempting to sell rice above this price are liable to punishment.

The price went as high as \$49 per picul on Saturday.

Prices of other commodities in Shanghai have doubled recently. Employees of various firms are asking increases in their salaries in order to meet the high cost of living. — Central News.

SWEDISH MILITARY MEASURES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Stockholm, To-day.
M. Quensel, Swedish Minister for National Defence, has made a speech in which he re-affirmed the absolute necessity of the military measures taken recently. He added: "Precautions are necessary when a neighbour's house is afire."—Havas.

LEAVING CHUNGKING

Chungking, To-day.
Mr. Nelson T. Johnson, United States Ambassador to China, is leaving Chungking for Shanghai at the end of this month. — Central News.

STEP ONLY TAKEN IN WAR OR TIME OF EMERGENCY

London, To-day.

REPORTS FROM DIFFERENT parts of the world indicate the growing reaction to Soviet aggression against Finland.

In Sweden, the chief of the General Staff, General Terno, has been appointed acting Commander-in-Chief of Swedish Forces, a step only taken in time of peril.

He said: "In the present time, the defence of freedom and the right of self-determination of the fatherland puts everything else in the background."

In Norway, a section of the civilian population, mostly women and children, are moving south from the northern regions.

In Belgium, students of Liege University marched through the city carrying banners declaring against Soviet aggression and Asiatic barbarity.

In the United States, a large American manufacturing concern has turned down a Soviet order worth thousands of pounds for machinery. — Reuter.

NAZI ARMS RUMOUR INTERESTS SOVIET

Moscow, To-day.

The official newspaper "Pravda" prints a report that Germany and Italy are delivering arms to Finland, but does not comment on this.

The heading to the article, however, casts doubt on the truth of the report, which, nevertheless, is confirmed in Rome.—Reuter.

EMPHATIC DENIAL

London, To-day.

An emphatic denial that Germany ever delivered war materials to Finland was broadcast by the official German wireless. The announcer declared that these allegations were only designed to disturb German-Russian relations.—Reuter.

"DANGEROUS GAME"

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Moscow, To-day.

The Soviet press gives much space to reports from Stockholm to the effect that Germany has sent anti-aircraft guns and considerable quantities of war materials to Finland.

Local German quarters declare that the reports are apparently due to a misunderstanding, while diplomats doubt whether Germany would risk such a dangerous game.—Havas.

VON PAPEN'S RECALL REQUESTED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

COPENHAGEN, TO-DAY.

THE BERLIN CORRESPONDENT OF THE NEWSPAPER "POLITIKEN" STATES THAT IT IS RUMoured IN BERLIN THAT TURKEY REQUESTED THE REICH TO RECALL VON PAPEN, NAZI AMBASSADOR TO ANKARA.

The request was a sequel to the recent incidents during which German anti-Turkish pamphlets were distributed in Turkey.

It will be remembered that the Wilhelmstrasse recalled Von Papen to Berlin a few days ago, probably to hear his report on the matter.—Havas.

U.S. TRADE IN OCTOBER WITH EAST

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.

According to statistics issued by the Department of Commerce, U.S. exports in October, 1939, totalled \$332,000,000, as against \$227,000,000 in October last year.

Of that amount, China imported \$5,000,000 worth, as against \$1,717,000 in 1938; Japan, \$23,367,000 as against \$19,497,000 in 1938.

American imports totalled \$215,261,000 as against \$178,020,000 the previous year.

China exported to the United States \$6,426,000 as compared with \$4,285,000 in 1938, and Japan \$20,438,000 as compared with 1938's \$11,078,000.—Havas.

STICKING TO THE RULES

Riga, To-day.

An appeal has been sent to the German Minister in Riga asking that

the repatriation of Germans from Latvia be postponed until next May.

Rejecting the appeal, the German Minister said that Berlin was not prepared to extend the time-limit, because difficult decisions are not made easier by postponement.—Reuter.

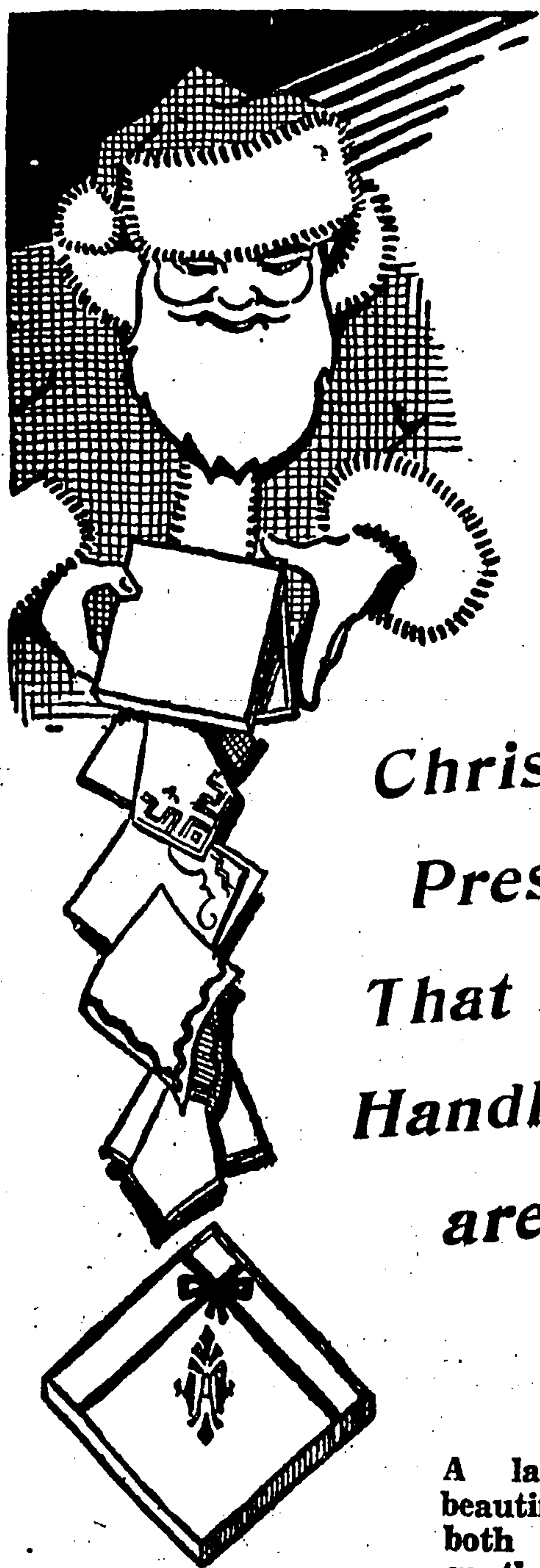
ATTACK ON JUNK

Activities against junks in waters near Hong Kong by Japanese warships continue.

Lau Sing-tak, 31, master of fishing junk No. 927HC, informed the police yesterday that while off Ah Kah Chai, a Japanese destroyer stopped the junk and transferred the cargo.

The cargo consisted of 40 piculs of wolfram ore, valued at \$11,580, and a consignment of ginger, valued at \$560.

The sailors then threw the junk's anchor overboard, forced the crew to one end of the junk, and set fire to it before sailing away.



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Finland's Appeal To Be Sent To League Assembly

ARGENTINA DEMANDS SOVIET EXPULSION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Geneva, To-day.

THE ISSUE OF A SECRET session of the Council of the League of Nations is understood to be a decision to forward the appeal of Finland to the League Assembly which is meeting to-day.

In the Lobbies, there is an almost unanimous demand for the expulsion of Russia from the League and this seems the most probable first step.

The Finnish delegate, M. Rudolph Holsti, attended at the private meeting of League Members and participated with other delegates in a detailed study of his government's memorandum, which all Members received yesterday.

NO SURPRISE

The Council's decision has caused no surprise.

The Assembly of the League must now draw the final conclusions on Finland's appeal, which invokes Articles Eleven and Fifteen of the Covenant, after which the matter will be referred back to the Council of the League for definite action.

Meanwhile, it is understood, a sort of ultimatum has been issued by the Argentine delegate, who has declared emphatically that Argentina will resign from the League if Soviet Russia is not expelled.

It is understood that this declaration will be presented in ultimatum form in the Assembly to-day, and that it will be endorsed by other Latin-American countries. The Argentine delegate in now engaged in forming a Latin-American Front to demand the expulsion of Russia.

DUTCH ATTITUDE

In the meanwhile, it is learned from The Hague that the Netherlands Government has decided not to participate in the elections to the League Council in view of the fact that no Scandinavian country is represented on the Council.

It is understood that the Dutch attitude towards the Finnish appeal is that the present composition of the League does not give the League the necessary authority to launch international action against an aggressor. — Havas.

BRITAIN TO GO WITH THE MAJORITY

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

Commenting on the meeting of the League of Nations to-day, observers here state that British Government quarters apparently do not favour the expulsion of the Soviets from the League, since such a step would merely contribute further to the strengthening of Soviet-German understanding without efficiently aiding Finland.

Nevertheless, Britain is ready to study all proposals which will be tabled by other League members and will support the majority decision. — Havas.

Po Kong Village, Kowloon City, was searched by police this morning. One man was arrested.

SUN CO. STRIKE IN SHANGHAI

SHANGHAI, TO-DAY.

SOME 400 EMPLOYEES OF THE SUN COMPANY, LIMITED, WENT ON STRIKE YESTERDAY AFTER-NOON AND THE POLICE HAD TO BE SUMMONED TO PREVENT DISTURBANCES.

On Saturday night, the employees presented the manager with four demands for increased salaries owing to the increased cost of living.

They were, however, informed that the matter would have to be discussed with the proper authorities, Board of Directors.

The matter was still unsettled last night.—Our Own Correspondent.

SINCERE'S ALSO AGITATE

Shanghai, To-day.

It is learned that the employees of the Sincere Company, Limited, have also demanded an increase in wages.

Unless, stated a spokesman of the employees, a satisfactory reply is received to-day, we shall follow the example of the Sun Company.—Our Own Correspondent.

BUSY DAYS IN PARLIAMENT

London, To-day.

In the last few days before the adjournment on Thursday for the Christmas Recess, Parliament will be fully engaged.

In the commons, there will be a secret session on Wednesday when the discussion will be on the supply of arms and munitions.

On Tuesday, the House will hear a statement on the war in the air by the Air Secretary, Sir Kingsley Wood, while before the adjournment on Thursday, the Prime Minister will review the progress of the war as a whole.

On all three days, question time will be long.

The Russian attack on Finland and further measures towards co-ordinating the organisation of the nation's economic effort are subjects in the forefront of the time-table. — British Wireless.

DRIFTING MINE

A mine drifted and exploded at Papla, near Talkuchow Island at 4.32 p.m. on Saturday, according to a report made to the police.



Sir Kingsley Wood, the Air Minister, and Sir John Simon, at a flight aerodrome near London. Photo show — Sir John Simon having a lunch time chat with airmen in their billets. (Copyright, Fox).

WHITE HOUSE AND SOVIET AGGRESSION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.

Well-informed quarters state that the Roosevelt Administration does not propose to extend the provisions of the Neutrality Act to the Soviet-Finnish hostilities, in order that there may be no interference with the grant of American credits to Finland.

The stand of the White House regarding the Soviet-Finnish conflict is similar to that towards the Sino-Japanese War, to which the Neutrality Act has not been applied.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg, the Republican candidate for the Presidency, is still demanding that the United States break off diplomatic relations with the Soviet.

In a letter to Mr. Cordell Hull, he pointed out that the stand adopted by the South American States added to this would be an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Pan-American solidarity. — Havas.

U.S. LEAVES DOOR OPEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

WASHINGTON, TO-DAY.

POLITICAL CIRCLES HERE RE-EMPHASISE THE FACT THAT THE AMERICAN NOTE TO BRITAIN REGARDING THE CONTROL OF GERMAN EXPORTS DID NOT INCLUDE THE WORD "PROTEST," THEREBY LEAVING THE DOOR OPEN TO BRITISH SUGGESTIONS.

The note was necessary as the task of Washington must be, firstly, to maintain an attitude of technically strict neutrality as proclaimed by President Roosevelt, and, secondly, to show solidarity with other neutrals which have already despatched similar notes to Britain and France.

Observers point out that the American note was very mild compared with a similar note that Washington sent to London in 1915 on the same subject. — Havas.

COL. REITZ PAYS WARM TRIBUTE

LISBON, TO-DAY.

IN AN INTERVIEW HERE, COLONEL REITZ, THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS, WHO IS PAYING A VISIT TO PORTUGAL ON HIS WAY BACK FROM THE EMPIRE TALKS, SAID THAT THE UNITY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE IS A REAL FACT.

"I, who have not a drop of British blood in me, declare that the closer we are the better it is for all," he said.

They fully realised the necessity of strengthening ties with Britain and the other members of the Commonwealth at a time when Imperialist nations were threatening the stability of the world.

Respect for the independence of states made the greatness of the British Empire.—Reuter.

MOSLEMS REJECT GANDHI PLAN

NEW DELHI, TO-DAY.

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH REUTER, MR. JINNAH, PRESIDENT OF THE ALL-INDIA MOSLEM LEAGUE, CONDEMNS MR. GANDHI'S PROPOSAL FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Jinnah reiterates his willingness to give every assistance towards getting an honourable solution of the Hindu-Moslem question, but the proposed assembly would be at best manoeuvred and managed by a "Hindu caucus."—Reuter.

ASSAULT CHARGE AGAINST GUARDIAN

Sin Yu-ha, 36, widow, was fined \$20 by Mr. R. A. D. Forrest this morning, for assaulting a 12-year-old girl.

Mr. H. W. Fraser, of the S.C.A., said the girl was a ward. She was beaten by defendant, for losing some clothing, about the head, thighs and arms, with a bamboo cane.

PICKPOCKET SENT TO PRISON

Sentence of six months' hard labour was imposed on Chan Hung, 28, by Mr. T. J. Houston this morning, for the theft of \$296. Defendant bumped into a salesman at about 11.30 a.m. yesterday, and extracted the bank-notes from his pocket.

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MIRROR OF WORLD OPINION.

CONTRABAND

There remains to-day only one real question—and that more a question of ethics than of international law. Is it, in fact, justifiable to include in lists of contraband goods all foodstuffs, even though much of this food will obviously go to the fighting forces? In the last war we were forced to take this step by the German decision to wage unrestricted submarine warfare. Germany tried to starve us out and failed; we tried to starve Germany out and, in a sense, succeeded. In the present war both sides are following the same policy. There can be no question that the inclusion of foodstuffs in lists of contraband is justified by international law as well as by practice. It is true that it is contrary to the Declaration of London, but the only State to ratify that treaty, the United States, abandoned it when she herself entered the last war. The question is rather whether it is necessary, whether it is wise from a political point of view. This is not a simple matter. In a recent article in the "Times" Sir William Beveridge pointed out that even if we wished to do so we could not reduce the German people to starvation by our present blockade. Fats are the only important food for which Germany is dependent on imports from overseas, but fats are also an indispensable element in the making of propellants for guns. If we permitted the import of fats into Germany, would they go to feed the people or the guns? General Goering has given his famous answer. We might possibly release meat and cereals from the list, though alcohol and glycerine can be produced from wheat, but in any case the German people need not starve for lack of these foods if Hitler wishes to prevent it. In maintaining all foodstuffs on our list of contraband we are not making war on women and children but are giving the German Government and people a choice between peace with plenty and war without: it is a hard choice indeed, but it is not we who made it in the first place.—"Manchester Guardian."

THE TWO-TERM TRADITION

The additional reason now advanced in favour of a third term is that Mr. Roosevelt is the man the country must have to guide us through the war situation. So long as the war continues that will be the chief argument used in behalf of a third term. If, in fact, Mr. Roosevelt were recognised as the only man equipped to steer us through the present storms, he would by this time have received a blank check from the country as evidence. The contrary has occurred. There is not the unquestioning dependence upon his leadership that is implied by the argument that he is indispensable to direct our foreign policy.

Protection for democracy lies not in making the Presidential office powerless and sterile, but in retaining in the hands of the people the power to change the occupant. The two-term tradition is an infinitely greater protection to democracy than any legislative hamstringing of the Executive ever can be. In this period, when democracy has to watch its step, it seems more essential than ever before to preserve intact this protective tradition. Only in the midst of our participation in a critical war could there be any substantial case for abandoning the two-term tradition, and we should want to hear a good deal of argument

on that. Certainly in a period of neutrality such as this, the emergency is not sufficient to call for any scrapping of democracy's No. 1 safeguard. And we say that believing that Mr. Roosevelt has been not a perfect President but a great one.—"New York World-Telegram."

WANG CHING-WEI

Wang Ching-wei's efforts to establish a central puppet government for his Japanese masters are failing dismally. His predecessors in puppetry are refusing to share their part of the swag. The Chinese armies also inconspicuously blasted his hopes for inaugurating his new regime by smashing the Japanese at Changsha.

An insight into the methods of Wang can be gleaned from the account of the bogus "Kuomintang Congress" he assembled in Hongkew under the protective wing of the Japanese, which "adopted important decisions."

The claim that this so-called "Sixth Kuomintang Congress" rallied 240 delegates is a lie from beginning to end.

But the latest Japanese Premier is not to be discouraged. The new government for China is now scheduled for sometime next month, since without this convenient device, the "China Incident" cannot be closed. The war will be officially terminated by Japan, (if we are to believe the propaganda) and leave the job of cleaning up the "Communist bandits" to the armies of the puppet government which will be generously officered by Japanese.

Perhaps it is too much to expect of Japan's political wizards to alter the pattern until Chinese armies have ousted them from the land.—"China To-day."

BRITISH ECONOMY

Britain has large capital resources and sound currency, and its external trade, unlike Germany's, will continue in all parts of the world. Britain, like Germany, has to face costs of production which for most kinds of armaments are far greater than in the World War. Some of the modern types of aeroplane cost ten times as much as was needed to produce a similar type in 1918. It takes twice as much to equip modern divisions of the Army as to equip the less highly mechanised divisions in the last war. For the colossal expenditure now required Britain must be prepared to use its great resources till it, too, reaches a maximum of production. So far as factories and man-power are available, there is no estimable limit to the expenditures which Britain will incur.

This does not mean that Britain has a bottomless purse. The nation cannot devote an ever-increasing part of

its energy and its money to war production without decreasing the proportion devoted to other purposes. That is to say, the nation must pay for the war. It must sacrifice other things to feed the war monster. Its citizens must spend less on their daily living in order that the machine may consume more. Parliament and people recognised this when Sir John Simon, Chancellor of the Exchequer, went to the House of Commons with taxation demands the like of which had never before been contemplated. By accepting this sacrifice, the British agreed to reduce the burden of debt on posterity, and in so doing to avoid the risk of present inflation and mounting prices. It was a bold thing to do to put so heavy a burden on an already burdened people. But in modern warfare the sacrifice must be universal. This fact as well as increased cost is sure to engender popular support for peace whenever a sound and just peace can be made.—"Christian Science Monitor."

FEDERATION OF THE WORLD

For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;
Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,
Pilots of the purple twilight,
dropping down with costly bales;
Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rain'd a ghastly dew
From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue;
Far along the world-wide whisper of the southwind rushing warm,
With the standards of the peoples plunging thro' the thunder-storm;
Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furled
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.
—Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)
in "Locksley Hall."



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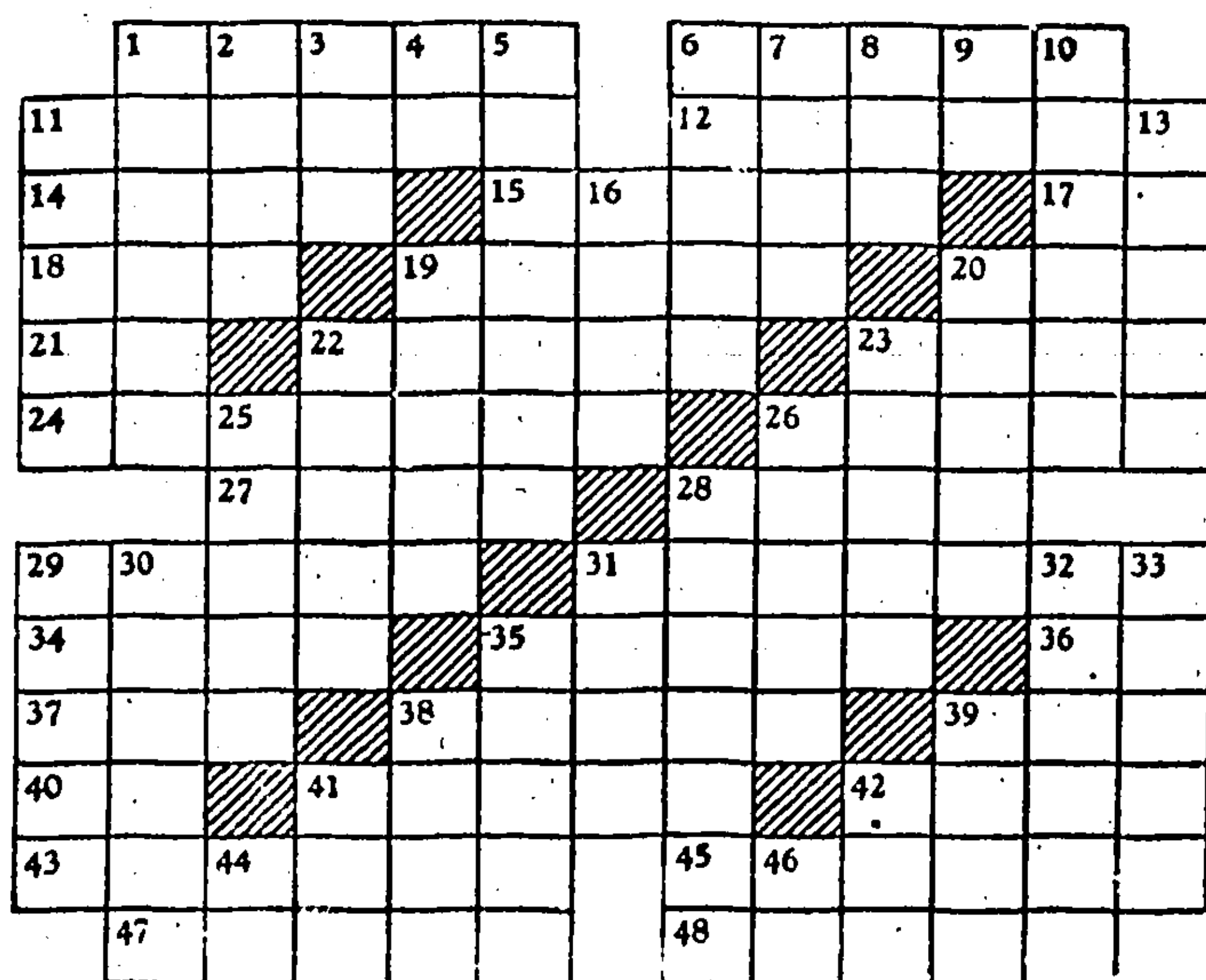
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HORIZONTAL

- 1 Sadness
- 6 Pretenses
- 11 Heavenly
- 12 Tooth decay
- 14 Keenly desirous
- 15 Open
- 17 Symbol for nickel
- 18 Among
- 19 Tossed
- 20 Tangle
- 21 Hypothetical force
- 22 Peak
- 23 Small insect
- 24 To disregard
- 26 Provisions
- 27 Anglo-Saxon court
- 28 To confront
- 29 Group of three
- 31 Divers
- 34 Dwarf
- 35 Sand hills
- 36 Artificial language
- 37 Emmet
- 38 Deer (pl.)

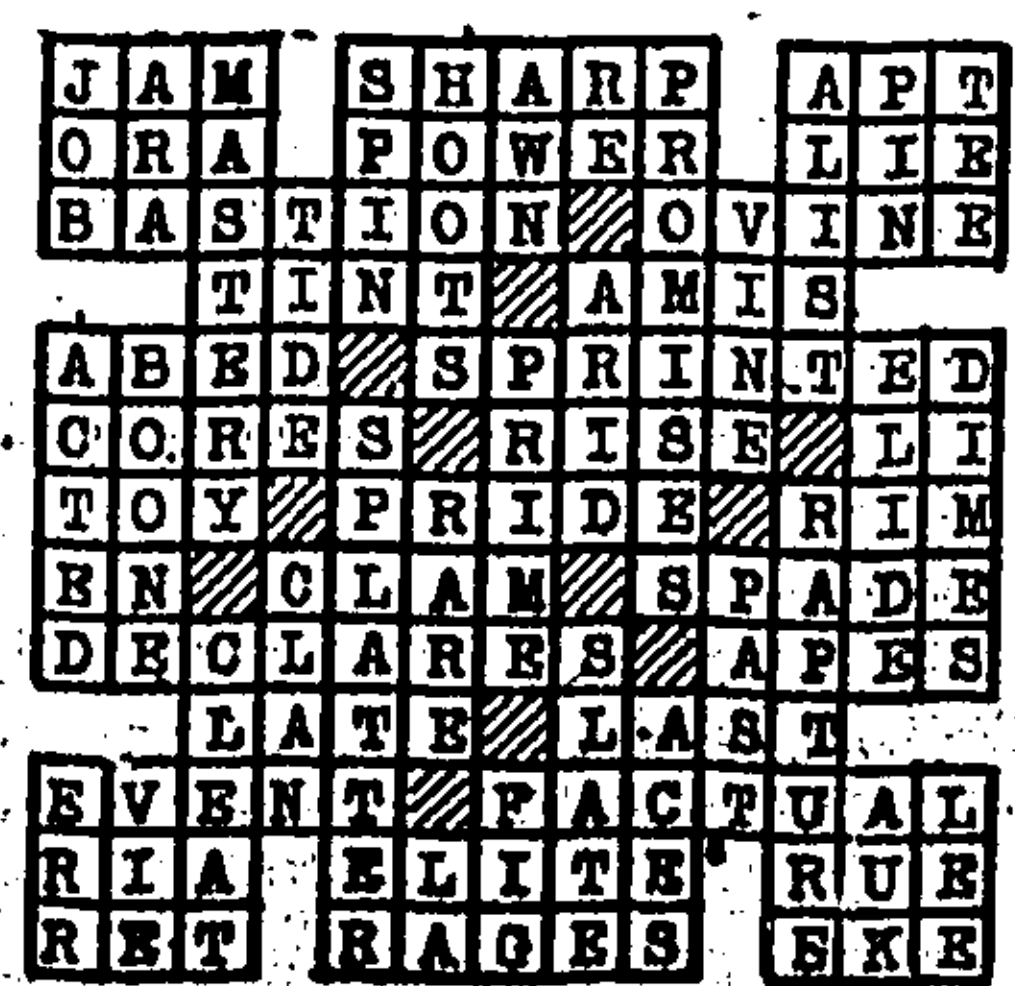
VERTICAL

- 39 Outfit
- 40 Nook
- 41 To analyze
- 42 To mislay
- 43 Cylindrical
- 45 Bailiffs
- 47 Ship
- 48 Cloys

- 1 To separate
- 2 Latin poet
- 3 Top
- 4 Preposition
- 5 To meditate
- 6 Small in measure
- 7 To depend
- 8 Sacred chest
- 9 Note of scale

- 10 Body of legislators
- 11 Companion of Pythias
- 13 Locations
- 16 Corrosion
- 19 Released
- 20 Bishop's hat
- 22 Shoe grip
- 23 Clubs
- 25 Luster
- 26 Caverns
- 28 Protective devices
- 29 Characteristic
- 30 Small stream
- 31 Heavenly bodies
- 32 Originates
- 33 Theatre boxes
- 35 More terrible
- 38 Abominate
- 39 To wander
- 41 To write
- 42 To rent
- 44 Japanese measure
- 46 Babylonian god

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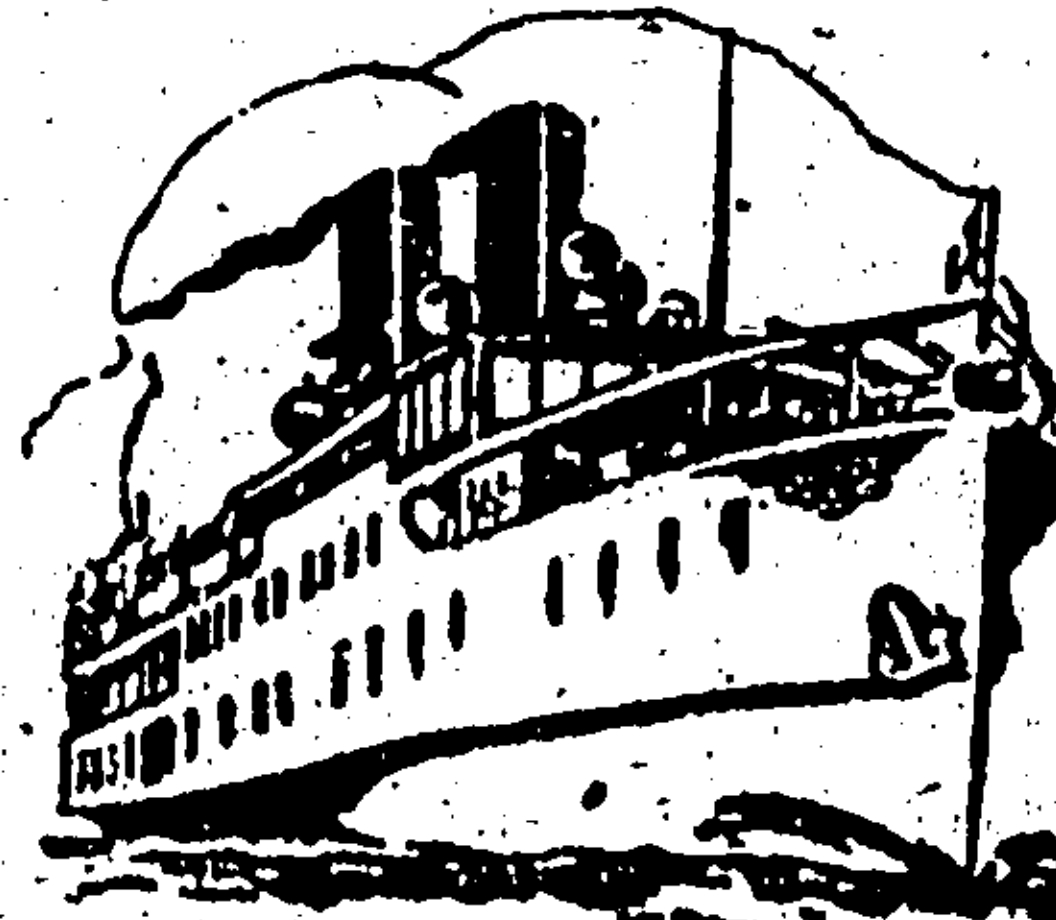
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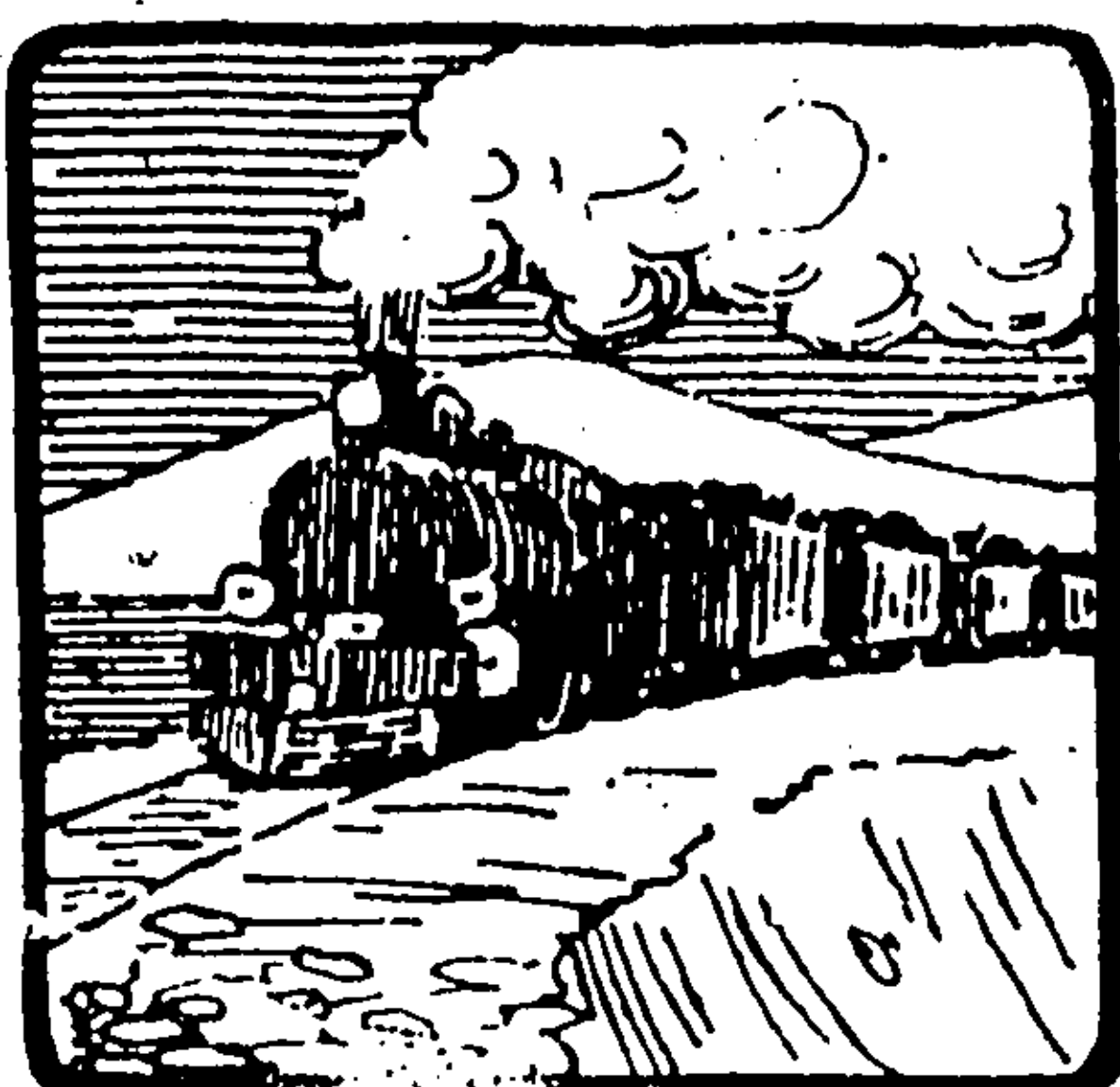
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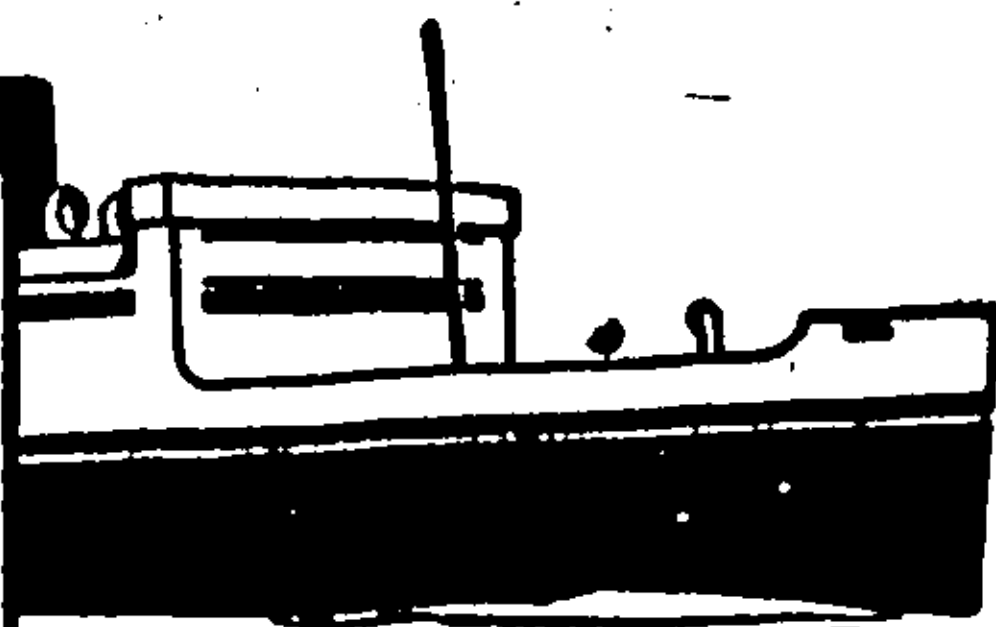
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**FORGED
MORTGAGE
ALLEGATION**

(Continued from Page 3)

On the date of the first mortgage, he was in his village and an entry in the rice subscription book would show that he contributed \$100. He denied that the signature on the mortgages were his.

The father of the third plaintiff had been a partner of the firm and part owner of the property which plaintiff inherited after his death. He admittedly signed two previous mortgages. One for \$25,000 assigning property to his own wife, as he was afraid he would be held responsible for the debts of a firm with which he had nothing to do, and, on another occasion, with one, Chan Chung-wan, who was entrusted with the deeds.

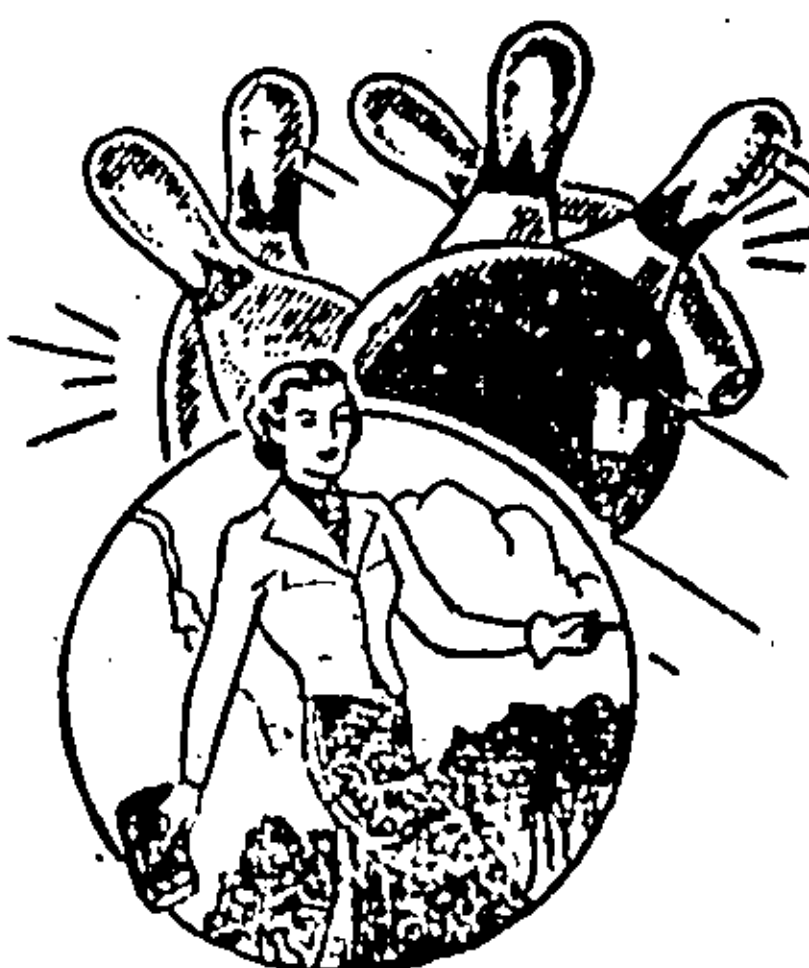
When the present case cropped up, the plaintiff went to the offices of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master and great consternation was caused when plaintiff found that the signature on the mortgages he admitted signing, had been altered either by erasures or mechanical process.

On the day of the mortgage with the Overseas Bank, plaintiff would say he was in the country and that the signature on that mortgage was not his.

Case is continuing.

**SMITH AND HUNTER
IN GOLF FINAL**

J. T. Smith and F. D. Hunter yesterday entered the final of the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club championship when they beat D. J. Gilmore and W. W. C. Shewan respectively by 5 and 4 and 3 and 2.

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**MRS.
STRANGE
PLAYS WELL**

There was considerable keenness in the ladies' match and the Mainland team can be considered fortunate to have won by the odd goal in three after having much the worst of exchanges in the first half.

Stout work by both defences prevented many combined forward movements and most danger came from the wings, where some of the finest wingers in the Colony were on view.

Miss Hall, in the Mainland goal, was given a good deal more to do than Mrs. Lunson and was consequently more in the eye. She showed fine judgment in leaving her goal and she dealt with hard drives coolly.

Miss White and Mrs. Wilnot were a fine pair of backs, the former's confident first-time clearances and the latter's great spilling relieving many anxious situations. Miss Gray and Mrs. Strange, for Island, were also well in the picture, the former's great experience standing her in excellent stead.

Mrs. Strange gave her finest display as a back to date and hardly made a mistake.

Miss McCaw and Miss Woolley gave adequate displays in the intermediate-line but Miss Wong had another off-day. Their opposite numbers were much better balanced. Miss Pocock's speed, keen tackling and fine distribution; Mrs. Stone's powerful clearances and Miss Greaves' persistence and accurate reverse stick-work making this trio most difficult to pass.

FORWARDS SCRAPPY

Play by both sets of forwards was inclined to be scrappy and individual play was the order rather than the exception. Finest forward on view was Mrs. Gardner, who was especially good in the second half, while Mrs. Burnett made some nice runs in the first half but still showed her old shortcoming of delaying her centres too long.

Miss Marr was too well watched to be effective and Mrs. Strange had her well taped throughout. Of the others, Miss Purvis made some thrilling runs on the Island left wing and scored the finest goal of the afternoon and Miss Harker and Miss McCaw tried hard to keep the ball moving.

There was no scoring until 10 minutes before the end when Miss Purvis made her spectacular run on the left wing, cut in and beat Miss Hall with a beautiful shot into the left hand corner.

A few minutes later, Island hopes of victory were dampened when Miss Reid, following up a shot which Mrs. Lunson only partially cleared, netted. The same player scored a similar shot a few moments later to give Mainland a surprise win.

Messrs. L. F. Xavier and J. Dove umpired, and the teams were:—

Mainland:—J. Hall (St. Andrew's); G. White (St. Andrew's) and Mrs. Wilnot (C.B.A.); M. McCaw (Y.M.C.A.), I. Woolley (C.B.A.) (Captain) and J. Wong (St. Andrew's); G. Marr (Hong Kong), B. Harker (Y.M.C.A.), D. McCaw (Y.M.C.A.), H. Reid (St. Andrew's) and M. Shand (C. B. School).

Island:—Mrs. J. Lunson (Hong Kong); E. M. Gray (Hong Kong) and Mrs. N. Strange (Y.M.C.A.); Mrs. Stone (Y.M.C.A.); K. Pocock (Y.M.C.A.) and B. Greaves (St. Andrew's); Mrs. O. Burnett (Y.M.C.A.), Mrs. S. Gardner (Y.M.C.A.), S. Roberts (St. Andrew's) Mrs. F. Dalziel (Hong Kong) and A. Purves (Hong Kong).

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TO-DAY'S STRANGE STORY OF REAL PEOPLE

THE THEFT OF THE HART RUBY

By George Barton.

The Hart ruby was the most famous jewel in the lake section of England. It was the size of a walnut, had a rich crimson colour that was fairly dazzling in its brilliance and was well calculated to excite the envy and the cupidity of the world. This notable gem came into prominence about two decades ago when Sir William and Lady Hart gave a much-talked-about house party on their handsome estate near London. It was a seven-day party ending with a masquerade ball.

There were forty guests, some of them closely related to royalty. After finishing dressing for the affair, Lady Hart dismissed her maid, who evidently needed a rest after a strenuous day's work. On the dressing table lay the Hart ruby. Before fastening it in her bodice, Lady Hart stepped into an adjoining room to speak to one of her guests.

When she returned to her own room the famous ruby was gone!

She gave a scream that brought her husband and a few of her guests to her side. She was hysterical but Sir William was calmness itself. He directed that the festivities go on as usual and that, as far as possible, none of the other guests be informed of the loss of the rare gem. In the meantime he got into communication with Scotland Yard and in an hour Inspector Sweeney was in consultation with the master of the house.

His first move was to direct that no one be permitted to leave the house without his knowledge. Sir William called to a passing servant:

"Go to the lodge gate and tell the keeper that no one is to leave the premises without permission of Inspector Sweeney."

The man bowed and left the house. After that the detective was given a list of the guests. He found that several of them had brought maids and valets with them. One of these retainers was John Martin, valet to Sir Archibald Hunter. The detective directed that Martin be brought to him. A search of the house failed to reveal him.

"I'm very sorry," said Sir William Hart, "but Sir Archibald left yesterday and I presume his servant went with him."

Late that night Inspector Sweeney ascertained that the midnight train from the nearby station had carried one passenger. The description of the traveler who had left in the dead of the night made the detective smile. He was satisfied that Sir William had unwittingly helped



She Discovered the Theft of the Ruby.

ed the thief to escape. It will be recalled that he sent a passing servant to warn the lodge keeper not to permit anyone to leave without permission of the inspector.

But one man passed without the permission of anybody and that man was the servant who had been sent to the lodge keeper with the warning message. It was as easy as that; the owner of the ruby had thoughtlessly paved the way for an easy escape.

It was proved that the valet had entered the services of Sir Archibald Hunter by skillfully forged letters of recommendation. He accompanied his master to the house party given by the Harts. When his master was unexpectedly called away, Martin contrived to remain behind to see what he could steal. His opportunity came quicker than he had expected. It was in the form of the unguarded ruby. He was puzzling

his brain over how he should conceal the gem when he got the unexpected order to instruct the gate keeper not to permit anyone to leave the house.

Inspector Sweeney did not go in pursuit of Martin immediately. He remained at the house long enough to do some more cross-questioning. And when he left the house he carried with him an ordinary drinking glass—a plain tumbler which contained the remains of stale ale.

It seemed a queer thing to do—queer to everybody except Sweeney. But at that time the theory of the science of fingerprints was just coming into use by the police. The tumbler contained the impression of four fingers and a thumb. He turned the glass over to the newly-organized fingerprint department of Scotland Yard while he ran out other threads of the case.

Sweeney had mapped out a complete plan of campaign before he

left the Hart estate that night. He followed the trail of the lone passenger to the Victoria Station in London. Here he located the cabbie who had taken Martin to his destination. The detective grinned at the thought of a valet calling a cab to take him to his lodgings. It was a touch of regal vanity that was to lead to the detection of the thief.

The cabman readily agreed to take Inspector Sweeney to the place where he had carried his fare. Yes sir, it was an honour to wait on anybody connected with Scotland Yard! It proved to be a little place near the outskirts of the city—a sort of broken down village section. The detective tapped on the door and was admitted by a shabbily dressed woman. Sweeney instructed her to tell Martin that a friend had called to see him. He took a chair in the stuffy little parlour and the next minute, John Martin entered, peering curiously at his caller in the semi-darkness.

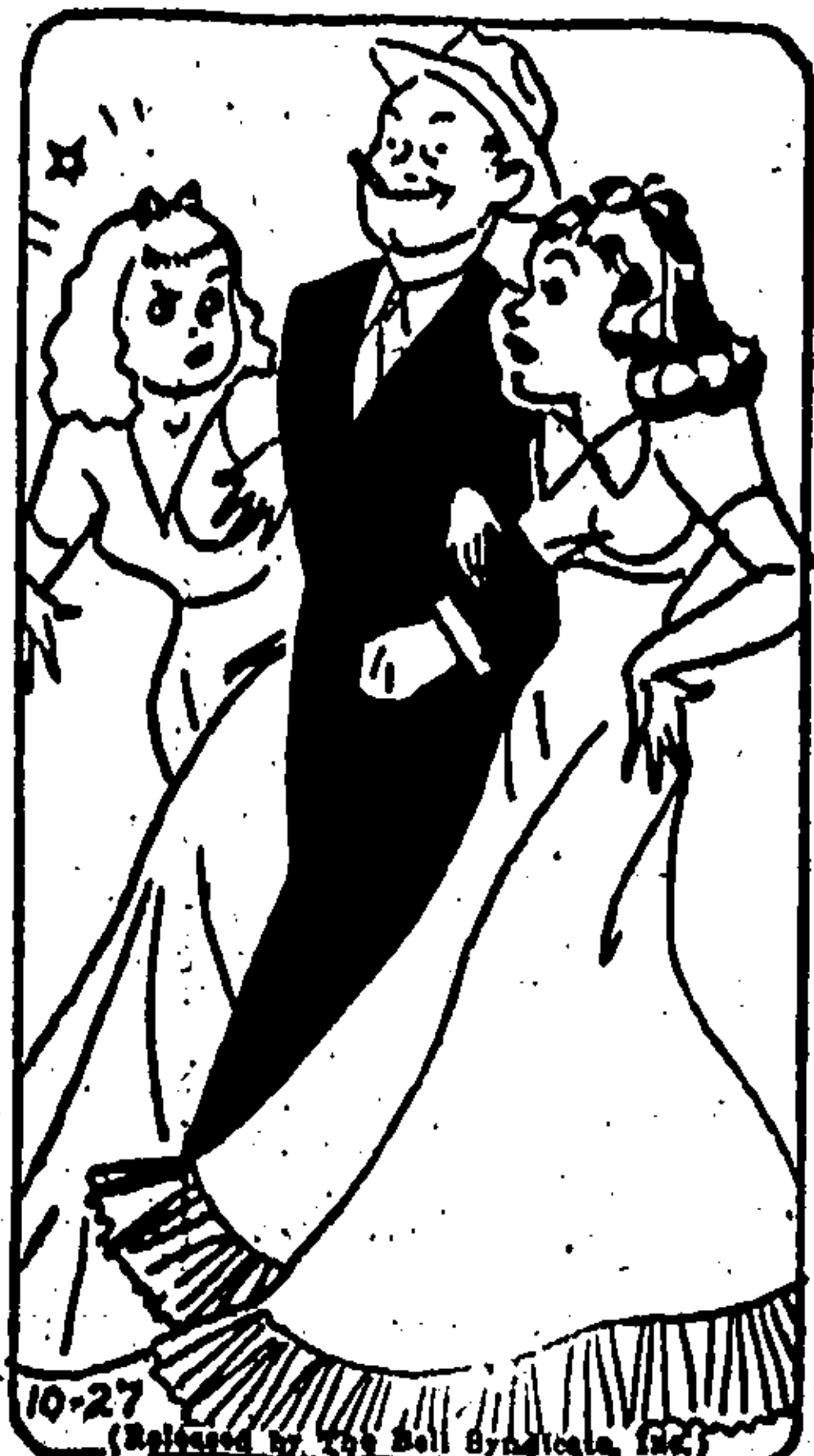
"What do you want?" he growled.

"Lady Hart's ruby," came the reply with the suddenness of a bullet from a rifle, "and I want it right away."

The unexpectedness of this took the thief off his guard, and before he realized what he was doing he had confessed the whole business. But even if he had, not confessed, evidence against him was being piled up. Fingerprints on the side of the cab were identical with those found on the ale glass and both of these corresponded with those of John Martin.

The ruby was returned to Sir William Hart and John Martin was given a two-year sentence in an institution where he would be free from temptation.

Even if the gem had not been recovered so quickly, it is doubtful if the thief could have been able to dispose of such a conspicuous jewel. That was a detail which the thief had not taken into consideration.

WEEZY
Kitty

A half-baked guy is he with plenty of dough and too many irons in the fire.

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NEW YEAR'S EVE ("Grippe" Carnival) TILL 3 A.M.

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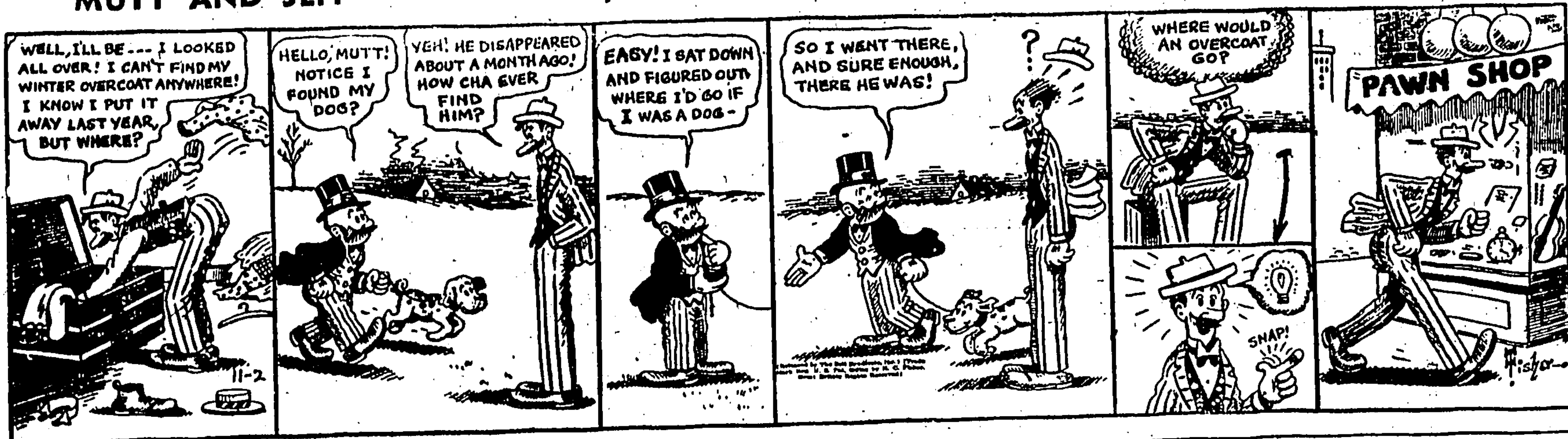
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conducted by Adrian Boul. taineers accomp. by the Bunk House Boys. Slumberland (Lambert & Others)... Les Allen (Baritone) with Orch. 6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations. 6.32 p.m.—Feodor Chaliapine (Bass) in a Russian Programme. 7.15 p.m.—Sibelius—Symphonic Poem "Night-Ride and Sunrise", Op. 55. The B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra

7.30 p.m.—London Relay—The News. 8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements. 8.03 p.m.—Studio—Talk on "Magnetic Mines". 8.25 p.m.—Variety with Gracie Fields, The Gay Nineties Singers, Max Miller and The Rocky Mountaineers. Comedienne—The Clockwork Courtship (Rayners); Pass, Shoot, Goal! (Hargreaves & Others)... Gracie Fields with Orchestra. Vocal—Botany Bay (Traditional); The One-Horse Shay (Traditional)... The Gay Nineties Singers with Orchestra. Comedien—Maria Fell For Me (Miller); No, No, No (Miller)... Max Miller with Orchestra. Vocal—It Ain't Nobody's Biz'ness What I Do; Oh Susannah; We'll Rest At The End Of The Trail... The Rocky Mountaineers accompanied by the Bunk House Boys. Orch.—Harry Roy's New Stage Show... Harry Roy & His Orch.

9.05 p.m.—Studio—Comments on Recent Events. 9.15 p.m.—London Relay—News Summary. 9.30 p.m.—Patricia Roseborough and Robinson Cleaver (Piano and Organ). The Bells of St. Mary's (Adams); By The Waters of Minnetonka (Lieurance); Bird Songs at Eventide (Eric Coates); Parlez-Moi D'Amour (Lenoir); Trees (Rasbach). 9.45 p.m.—Jack Buchanan and Elsie Randolph in Musical Comedy. "That's a good girl" (Braham & Furber); Now That I've Found You; Fancy Our Meeting... Jack Buchanan & Elsie Randolph (Vocal) with Orchestra. "Music In The Air"—Selection (Hammerstein 2nd & Kern)... New Mayfair Orchestra. "Mr. Whittington"—Selection... Jack Buchanan & Elsie Randolph with Carroll Gibbons & John W. Green at two pianos accompanied by Their Boy Friends. "The Dancing Years"—The Leap Year Waltz... The Drury Theatre Orchestra. 10.12 p.m.—Dance Music. 11.00 p.m.—CLOSE DOWN.

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Neither side vulnerable

Mr. Fincke

♠ A J 9 7 4
♥ A K J 9 6 3
♦ 10 2
♣ K Q J 10
9 6 5
♥ 3
♦ 7
♣ K J 9 8
♠ A 8 7 3 2
♥ K Q 10 8
♦ 2
♣ A 7 6

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	4♠	5♠	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Following the opening spade bid, West decided to make a most unusual bid and pre-empt in a suit bid by his opponent. His bid certainly left Mr. Fincke on the spot. Of course he could double four spades and set it, but on the other hand it looked as if his side could make a Slam in the right suit. How to get to this suit was the problem, and hence the brilliant bid of five spades. If South had bid six clubs, Mr. Fincke of course intended to bid six diamonds. But the six heart response was just what he wanted.

Seven was made as follows: The King of spades was opened. Declarer won with the Ace, discarding a low club from dummy, played the deuce of

diamonds and won with dummy's Ace. He trumped a diamond with the Queen of hearts, led the King of hearts, overtaking with dummy's Ace trumped another diamond, played the Ace and another club, trumping with the four-spot, trumped a third diamond, got back to dummy by ruffing another club and then the rest of the cards in dummy were good.

Saturday you were David Bruce Burnstone's partner. Neither side was vulnerable and you held:

♠ 9 7 4
♥ A 6 5 2
♦ 8 7 3
♣ 5 4 2

The bidding:

Burnstone	Jacoby	You	Maier
1♦	Pass	(?)	

ANSWER: Your correct bid is to pass. The one trick you have, plus your partner's opening bid, should prove sufficient defence against opponents' possible game contract and anyway if they have a game a bid will not stop them. If you do bid you are likely to get into trouble.

Score 100% for a pass, 40% for one heart or one notrump.

QUESTION NO. 280

You are Oswald Jacoby's partner. Both sides are vulnerable and you hold:

♠ A 3 2
♥ A 3 2
♦ A 5 4 3 2
♣ 8 7

The bidding:

Schenken	You	Maier	Jacoby
Pass	(?)		

What do you bid? (Answer tomorrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

COLONY LADIES' TENNIS

The position of play in the Colony Ladies Singles and Doubles Lawn Tennis Tournaments which are being run under the auspices of U.S.R.C. is now as stated:—

(a) Ladies Singles Tournament

No matches have yet been played. The following matches will be played on dates as stated, as extensions have been granted in these cases:—
Miss J. Reeve v. Mrs. F. C. Tracey
Will be played on Thursday, 14.12.39.
Mrs. Marriott v. Mrs. N. W. Smeby
Will be played on Thursday, 14.12.39.
Miss M. Griffiths v. Mrs. E. Litton
Will be played on Tuesday, 12.12.39.
Mrs. Hutchison v. Miss Rumjahn.
Will be played Sunday 10th.

(b) Ladies Doubles Tournament

Matches into the 2nd Round are as follows:—
Miss Greig and Miss Marr v. Mrs. Sweeney and Mrs. Knight.
Mrs. Burnett and Miss Bradbury v. Miss Griffiths and Mrs. Chiu.
The match between Mrs. Whitham and Mrs. Marriott versus Mrs. Smeby and Mrs. Kevan in the 1st Round will

be played on Tuesday 12th inst. and the Winners of this match meet Mrs. Lade and Mrs. Churchill in the 2nd Round, this pair having beaten Misses Harker and Stokes 6-4 and 6-2.

Engineers Win

On the University ground Royal Engineers beat Field Ambulance (Volunteers) by 43 runs in a friendly cricket game.
Royal Engineers—175 M. Waite 50 ret. N. Goss 37.
Field Ambulance—132 L. T. Ride 54 F. Weller 29 and J. Shorthouse 22 Denyer 9 for 51.

South China Beat Navy

At Causeway Bay, South China "B" beat Royal Navy by 3 goals to 1 in the First Division of the Football League.
Chan Tak-fai, Tam Chun-kun and Yeung Shui-yick scored for the Chinese and Phillips scored for the Navy.

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p.m.

SATURDAY'S SPORT IN RETROSPECT

(Continued from Page 17)
ing by 41-37, but at the 10th St. Andrew's took the lead by 51-75 and at the 15th head were still leading by 118-114.

RUGBY CLUB seem almost assured of winning the Triangular Tournament outright for the first time since 1936 as the result of a 100 per cent. record at the end of their First Round matches, but they have by no means had matters all their own way, Army giving them a hard fight and Navy, though not piercing their defence, being uncomfortably near their total when one considers Paul is the best place-kicker in Hong Kong and Club forwards were being caught too frequently offside or obstructing opponents.

Deane played a grand game for the "A" team and a place should be found in the first fifteen pack as Club are badly in need

of forwards with punch, their play in the loose on Saturday, with one or two exceptions, being ragged. The back division seems to have solved itself and Club's only problem is at forward, where Bompas, Heasman, Wanklyn and Kennedy need to show greatly improved form.

Navy, crippled by the loss of Carter, not to mention Stevens, Pascoe and Johns, put up an amazingly good show against overwhelming odds, and the game was not decided until the final whistle had been blown. Clarke, Bowden, Paul, Taylor and Brown were their best players.

CRICKET N. B. Broadbridge, of Craigengower Cricket Club juniors was the outstanding batsman on Saturday afternoon when he scored 62, not out, against the Civil Service juniors. Green, of the Medical Corps was the best

bowler taking 7 wickets for 28 runs while Baldwin (K.C.C.) did well against the Air Force to obtain 6 wickets for 12 runs.

LEADING PERFORMANCES

N. Broadbridge (C.C.C.)	62*
W. Mulchay (K.C.C.)	57
G. Ainslie (C.S.C.C.)	53
G. N. Gosano (Recrelo)	51
J. Khana (I.R.C.)	49
A. M. Rodrigues (Recrelo)	47
H. P. Lim (C.C.C.)	47
Q.M.S. Patterson (R.A.M.C.)	46*
A. H. Madar (I.E.C.)	34
C. O. Pope (Police)	30
* Not out.	

Bowling Analysis

Green (R.A.M.C.)	7 for 29
Baldwin (K.C.C.)	5 for 12
Omar (C.C.C.)	5 for 29
Perelra (Recrelo)	4 for 10
McLellan (C.S.C.C.)	4 for 20

Pope (Police)	4 for 25
Hunter (Police)	4 for 37
Ozorio (Recrelo)	4 for 38
F. B. Zimhert (C.C.C.)	4 for 53

For the third week in succession, Eastern **FOOTBALL** were lucky and on Saturday after being outplayed for the greater part of the game, were able to force a draw against the Middlesex. The game was not as tame as it appeared to be and several of the Middlesex players are suffering from injuries.

Ordnance who have had great difficulty in fielding. Aside surprised when they held the Eastern juniors to a two-all draw. Rides, Munton and Jones played well for the Ordnance.

Royal Scots' third division team, were badly beaten by 24th R.A. who are making a challenge for the honours after a very poor start. The game was evenly contested and Marshall and Minshall did well in this game for the Gunners.

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The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on
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Xmas Letter Telegram Services (X.L.T.) will not be available in Hong Kong during the coming Xmas Season as in former years.

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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

THE THIRTEENTH EXTRA RACE MEETING will be held (weather permitting) at HAPPY VALLEY on SATURDAY, 16th December, 1939, commencing at 2.00 p.m.

The First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

No One without a badge will be admitted to the Members' Enclosure. Such must be worn throughout the duration of each Meeting in such a manner as to be readily identified.

Badges admitting Non-Members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$5.00 for Gentlemen and \$3.00 for Ladies (both including tax) are obtainable through the SECRETARY upon the personal or written application of a Member, such Member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him, and for Payment of all Chits, etc.

The Secretary's Office, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, (Tel. 27794) will close at 12 o'clock NOON.

Tiffins are obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 21920).

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of Admission to the Public Enclosure is \$1.00 including Tax, for all Persons, including Ladies, and is payable at the Gate. Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform are admitted Half Price.

By Order,
C. B. BROWN,
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Hong Kong, 11th. Dec., 1939.

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Hong Kong, 1st March, 1937.

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HONG KONG HEIGHTS

For the information of visitors the following list of some of the highest points on the Island and Mainland is published.—

Island	Feet.
Victoria Peak	1822
Signal Station	1774
Mt. Parker	1734
Mountain Lodge	1725
The Eyrie	1725
Peak Tram Station	1308
Taikeo Sanatorium	1000

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M. HAMBRO MAY TAKE THE CHAIR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Geneva, To-day.
It is understood that Norway has authorized M. C. J. Hambro, its delegate to Geneva, to accept the chairmanship of the present assembly.

It is supposed that M. Costa Durels, the Bolivian delegate, will withdraw to enable M. Hambro to take the chair.—Havas.

FINNISH PLANES CUT SOVIET RLY.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Berne, To-day.

Finnish bombers have cut the Murmansk railway in several places, hampering Soviet troop concentrations.

According to the Stockholm correspondent of the Swiss paper "Basler Nachrichten," important troops movements are taking place throughout Russia, following Moscow's decision to concentrate a huge force to deal a crushing blow to Finland.—Havas.

Occupants on the ground floor of No. 209, Fa Yuen Street, Shamshuipo, were held up at 10 a.m. to-day by three robbers armed with daggers.

BRITISH TANKER IN DISTRESS

London, To-day

A Belgian tanker is reported to be standing-by a British tanker which was torpedoed about 200 miles south-west of Land's End on Saturday night.

The tanker was badly damaged, breaking nearly in two, but she has remained afloat for 20 hours and the crew is still on board.—Reuter.

MUSSOLINI CONFERS WITH ARMY CHIEFS

Rome, To-day.

Signor Mussolini was in consultation last night with defence chiefs. It is understood that the reinforcement of Italian forces on all frontiers was decided upon.—Reuter.

GERMAN FLIGHTS IN THE BALTIC

Stockholm, To-day.

It is reported here that German planes have been carrying out reconnaissance flights in the Baltic.—Reuter.

YACHT KEEL LOST

Mr. R. E. M. Devaux, manager of the Far East Oxygen and Acetylene Company, Limited, has reported the loss of a yacht keel, valued at \$200. The yacht was being built at To Kwa Wan.

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Helsinki, To-day.

An official communique states that continued enemy attacks in the region of the River Taipale have been repulsed.

Violent fighting is going on at several points on the Eastern frontier with the exception of the Petsamo region.

Soviet aircraft have bombed the forts on the islands before Koivisto.

The Finnish air force has bombed marching enemy columns and with the assistance of field artillery destroyed a column of tanks and armoured cars.—Reuter.

Moscow, To-day.

An official communique claims advances of between three and four miles in every war-zone.

The Soviets claim to have occupied the town of Kuolojarvi, in the direction of Ukhta and the towns of Boboshino and Kirka-muolaa in the Karelian Isthmus.—Reuter.

London, To-day.

The Soviet protest against the Anglo-French blockade against German exports declares that the Allied methods of economic warfare violate international law.

It reserves the right to claim compensation if State-owned Soviet merchantmen are forced to call at an Allied port, or if Allied measures otherwise damage Russia's trade.—Reuter.

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